The Literary Digest

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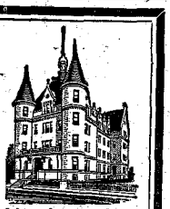

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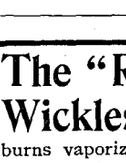

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SHALL PEKING BE ABANDONED?

THE American press are far from being united in support of the Russo-American plan to withdraw from the Chinese capital. The Minneapolis *Tribune*, for example, remarks that the Russian program "looks like a proposal to restore the murderers to power and then open negotiations with them," and the New Orleans *Picayune* says: "The withdrawal of all the foreign forces from Peking would be construed by the Chinese as a weakening on the part of the powers and a virtual victory for China. Instead of aiding peace negotiations, such a course would have a tendency to complicate them. It would certainly appear more reasonable for the powers to maintain a proper garrison at Peking until negotiations for peace have been opened and a *modus vivendi* established." The Boston *Herald*, indeed, thinks that the "policy of scuttle" might encourage the Boxers to renewed outbreaks, and "might lead to the necessity of another expedition before long." The Nashville *Banner* observes, too, that the United States "will do well to keep a close watch on any proposals that come from the crafty Northern bear," and the Richmond *Times* says: "It may be well if Mr. McKinley becomes imbued with a little of Lord Salisbury's caution. Russia's present course is a little unintelligible to those who are familiar with her past history, and, in every event, it will be far wiser to hold on to joint action with England until it becomes manifest that our purposes are too wide apart for reconciliation than to run off hastily to new ways and new allies that we do not feel perfectly sure of." The New York *Times* advises strongly against any lenient course, because "the Chinese nation must be made aware in some way that the Western world has the power to avenge indignities and to redress injuries aimed at it in the persons of its citizens. Pressure upon the Chinese Government and offensive operations against it should not cease until that point has been made quite clear. If this be so, it is plain that the time is by no means yet ripe for the evacuation of Peking." The most serious feature of the situation, in the view of the New York *Journal of Commerce*, is the danger that by disagreements over such questions as these the concert of the powers may be broken and "the most threatening possible forms of international dissension" invited. If Russia could break up the concert of the powers, continues the same paper, "she would have a free hand and would know how to play off government against government and place herself at the head of an omnipotent control of the Chinese empire. Her bold attitude has struck the other powers dumb with surprise; and Germany's imputed resolve to hold on in Peking seems to be the only antidote which, under existing circumstances, could effectually checkmate her purposes and lead the way to a thorough and permanent settlement of this great question."

On the other hand, one finds the Portland *Oregonian* expressing the belief that "there is no reason to doubt the sincerity of Russia's announcement that she wants no Chinese territory and is opposed to the further mutilation of the Chinese empire. Russia has her hands full to-day to complete her Trans-Siberian Railway and to maintain herself in her present position in Asia, confronted as she is with the near prospect of a war with Japan over the occupation of Korea and the Liau-Tong peninsula. . . . She can not afford to make an enemy of China, and naturally withdraws her troops at the first opportunity." The New York *Sun* believes that the maintenance of the present Manchu dynasty is necessary to the restoration of satisfactory conditions in China, and says: "It is a perception of the wisdom of refraining from annihilating the prestige of the Empress Regent in the eyes of the Chinese people which has caused the allied commanders at Peking to prevent their troops from occupying the Forbidden City, which contains the imperial palace. It is in pursuance of precisely the same policy that Russia and the United States will withdraw their soldiers from the Chinese capital. It is the only policy which offers so much and satisfactory solution of the complicated Chinese problem." The New York *Evening Post* believes that the retention of American troops in Peking may lead to dangerous complications. "Instead of taking a bold initiative," it says, "which would at least have kept our own skirts clean if it did not also cause the powers to imitate our action, we have weakly agreed to do what the others do. If they

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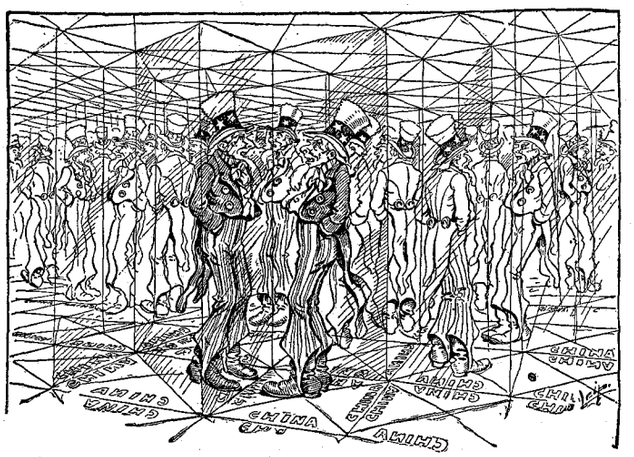
stay, we stay. Of course, the President says our troops will remain only 'temporarily.' So English soldiers were to stay only temporarily in Egypt, but they have been there twenty years. If the European nations sit down in Peking until a native government to their mind is established, until the finances are reor-



THE MYSTIC MAZE OF INTERNATIONAL POLITICS.

"It was easy enough to get in, b'gosh, but how do I get out?"
—*The Detroit News-Tribune.*

ganized, and the huge indemnity paid, they will stay there forever. And if the United States is to make itself a tender of Germany in Chinese policy, it will be found in the end joining in the partition of China, despite all its virtuous protestations to the contrary."

The Empress-Dowager, the Emperor, and the rest of the Chinese court, in the mean time, are in Singan-fu, five hundred miles southwest of Peking, in Shensi province, and are showing no signs of returning to Peking. Indeed, says the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia *Ledger:*

"Singan is a better capital for China than Peking. It would be a herculean task to capture and hold it. Everything done by the Empress indicates that she intends to remain there permanently. In fact, it was her avowed purpose last year to remove the capital to escape the encroachments of Germany and Russia. The removal was no doubt a part of the program of operations against the foreigners, of which the Boxer uprising was the most glaring feature used to produce a clash with the foreigners and justify the use of imperial troops against the legations.

"The strategy of the removal to Singan is already apparent in the unbending, unrelenting attitude of the Chinese Government. China does not know yet that she has been whipped, and to negotiate peace or indemnities with a Government that has gone into hiding and conceitedly imagines precipitate flight is a victory over the foreign arms will be fully as difficult as all the present indications seem to predict. The flight to Singan has another aspect which has been fully considered by this Government, and which has an important bearing on the withdrawal of our troops from Peking and China.

"As the Government settles down to the security of the inland capital, and it becomes apparent that the powers will demand large indemnities, which the obdurate anti-foreign commissioners appointed to act with Li Hung Chang will resist, there will no doubt be a decision on the part of China to continue the war with the allies."

AMERICAN CITIES OF 100,000 POPULATION.

THE census reports of the thirty cities of 100,000 or more inhabitants have brought out some interesting reflections on the movements of population in the United States and their causes. It is noticed that the Eastern cities are now growing about as fast as the Western ones, while the cities of the South are lagging somewhat. The manufacturing towns and the lake cities, it is remarked, show the greatest increase. Omaha, according to the returns, has decreased nearly 27 per cent.; but the papers pretty generally agree that this is due to a gross and fraudulent padding of the lists in the last census, and that Omaha has probably increased, in reality, 20 per cent. or more. Here is the list of cities of 100,000 or more population:

	1900.	1890.	Increase.	Per Cent.
New York	3,437,202	2,492,591	944,611	37.90
Chicago	1,698,575	1,099,850	598,725	54.43
Philadelphia	1,293,697	1,046,964	246,733	23.57
St. Louis	575,238	451,770	123,468	27.33
Boston	560,892	448,477	112,415	25.06
Baltimore	508,957	434,439	74,518	17.15
Cleveland	381,768	261,353	120,415	46.07
Buffalo	352,219	255,664	96,555	37.77
San Francisco	342,782	298,997	43,785	14.51
Cincinnati	325,902	296,908	28,994	9.77
Pittsburg	321,616	238,617	82,999	34.78
New Orleans	287,104	242,039	45,065	18.62
Detroit	285,704	205,876	79,828	38.77
Milwaukee	285,315	204,468	80,847	39.53
District of Columbia (including Washington)	278,718	230,392	48,326	20.98
Newark	246,070	181,830	62,240	35.33
Jersey City	206,433	163,003	43,430	26.64
Louisville	204,731	161,129	43,602	27.06
Minneapolis	202,718	164,738	37,780	23.05
Providence	175,597	132,146	43,451	23.88
Indianapolis	169,164	105,436	63,728	60 44
St. Paul	163,632	133,156	30,476	22 89
Kansas City (Mo.)	163,752	133,716	31,036	23.39
Rochester	162,435	133,896	28,539	21.31
Denver	133,859	106,713	27,146	25.44
Toledo	131,822	81,434	50,388	61.88
Allegheny	129,896	105,287	24,609	23.37
Columbus	125,560	87,150	37,410	42.44
Omaha	102,555	140,452	*37,897	*26.98
Scranton	102,026	75,215	26,811	35.65

*Decrease.

The Brooklyn *Eagle* remarks that the New Jersey cities across the North River are really part of New York, and if counted

PROGRESS OF PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.
—*The Salt Lake Herald.*

NOW COMES THE HARDEST PART, THE LETTING GO.
—*The Detroit Journal.*

CARTOON SNAP-SHOTS OF CHINA.

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with it in the census returns would bring New York's population above the 4,000,000 mark. Many guesses are being made at what the country's total population will be found to be, and the Philadelphia *Ledger* and many other papers reckon that the estimate of 75,000,000 will prove pretty nearly correct. The center of population, it is believed by the Cleveland *Leader* and several other papers, will be found to have paused for the first time in its westward journey, and to have moved northeastward from Decatur, Ind., where it was in 1890, toward Chicago. The fact, noted in our issue for August 25, that many of the cities are not growing as rapidly as they were ten years ago, is attributed by the Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle* to the trolley roads and the bicycle, which have taken many city residents to live in suburban towns; and, it observes, this "is not a fact to be deplored, however it may affect the standing of this city in the census column."

Lake Cities Leading.—"No group of cities that can be selected from the census lists will show such a large percentage of gain as that which is made by the leading ports of the great lakes. In order to make the comparison we shall begin with a selection that is hardly scientific, but that does the best that can be done for the outsiders. Six is the number chosen to correspond with the number of the ports, and we find that, exclusive of the latter, the leaders by percentages are as follows:

Indianapolis	60.44	Wilkesbarre	37.13
Allentown	40.38	Hoboken	36.01
New York	37.90	Newark	35.33

"Against these the lake cities line up in the following order:

Toledo	61.88	Milwaukee	39.55
Chicago	54.44	Detroit	38.77
Cleveland	46.07	Buffalo	37.77

"The average gain in the first case is 41.18 per cent., while in the second case it is 46.41, but such a computation alone misses the full significance of the comparison. Every one of the lake ports except Toledo has a population of more than 200,000—Hoboken has 59,304, Wilkesbarre 51,721, and Allentown 35,416. The latter cities belong to an inferior class, in which the chances for higher percentages are always greater. . . . Many other cities in the list are in practically the same latitude as their lake rivals, have practically the same climate and a population and general industries of much the same character. But there is a vast commerce whose course is directed absolutely by the lakes and whose handling is necessarily through the lake ports. The water is both a barrier and a carrier to the advantage of the cities upon its shores. Railroads, not being able to go through it, must go around it and touch at the ports on their way. And as they are anxious to get a chance at the lake trade they stimulate and increase it. There can be no doubt that the grand route as it is now defined both by nature and man is destined to become the greatest channel for commerce in the world, and that all the industries of the lake cities will profit accordingly."—*The Chicago Times-Herald.*

Manufacturing and City Growth.—"The figures have now been tabulated so far as to show that just about one third of our people are living in cities and towns of 8,000 persons or over. Ten years ago, 29 per cent. of the people were living in the cities and towns; so that the urban is growing more rapidly than the rural population.

"This is not surprising in view of the fact, still little appreciated, that the United States has passed from the list of nations in which agriculture predominates to the list of those in which manufacturing is the leading interest. Agriculture in this country still gives employment to more persons than manufacturing, but, measured by the value of the output, manufactures have become the leading industries. The value of our annual manufactures was estimated in 1897 at $4,500,000,000. We passed the United Kingdom between 1880 and 1890, and, according to Mr. Mulhall, our annual production in the last years of the century has been nearly double that of Great Britain and Ireland.

"It is natural therefore that here, as in Germany and other lands whose manufacturing interests have been rapidly expanding, the urban should increase at the expense of the rural population."—*The New York Sun.*

TWO PROMINENT RECRUITS FOR MR. BRYAN.

CONSIDERABLE stir was caused last week by the announcement of Senator Wellington (Rep.), of Maryland, in a speech, and the announcement of ex-Secretary Olney, in a public letter, that they intend to support Mr. Bryan for the Presidency. It had been known for some time that Senator Wellington disapproved the President's expansion policy, but his first public statement that he intended to leave his party and support the Democratic candidate was made on Tuesday of last week at Cumberland, Md., at a meeting where Mr. Bryan was present and welcomed the new Democratic recruit with a telling speech. The tenor of the Senator's remarks may be gathered from these sentences:

SENATOR GEORGE L. WELLINGTON.

EX-SECRETARY RICHARD OLNEY.

RECRUITS FOR MR. BRYAN.

"I am here to-night to declare my unalterable antagonism to the policy of imperialism and my opposition to the representative of that vicious principle. . . . I have determined to do that which I believe to be for the best interest of my country. I will do my whole duty, and in the performance of that duty I find it necessary not only to oppose the reelection of President McKinley but to emphasize that position by supporting his antagonist, who in this election stands for free government according to the Constitution."

Mr. Bryan, in reply, praised the Senator's moral courage in leaving his party for principle's sake, and said:

"What is his inspiration? Does he come to us for money? No man would come to the Democratic Party for money. Does he come for honor? His own party has satisfied his ambition for honor. What brings him to the Democratic Party at this time? What makes him act with those who support the Democratic ticket? It is his belief that his country is in peril; it is his belief that the course which the Republican Party is pursuing tends directly toward the repudiation of those principles of government which every party advocated until within three years."

The Washington *Times* (Dem.) calls Senator Wellington's course "courageous," and the Baltimore *Sun* (Dem.) calls him "a man of true grit," and says: "In a national crisis which

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should appeal to every true patriot his course has been in marked and favorable contrast to that of Senator Hoar, of Massachusetts, who, while occupying in the Senate almost precisely the same position as Senator Wellington on imperialism, failed his country when the test came, preferring the flesh-pots of party to the interests of the republic." The Chicago *Chronicle* (Dem.) believes that many Maryland Republicans will follow Senator Wellington into the Bryan camp, and that the Senator's defection "means that McKinley has no chance of carrying that State." The Republican papers, on the other hand, cast reflections on the Senator's mental and moral condition. The Chicago *Tribune* (Rep.) calls him a "deserter," and the Chicago *Evening Post* (Ind. Rep.) believes that he "has become erratic and hyperemotional through addiction to a dementalizing drug." The New York *Tribune* (Rep.) thinks that he has done the Republican Party a service by leaving it, and the Brooklyn *Eagle* (Ind. Rep.) says: "His Senate record is that of a spoils-monger. There are men who will be so unkind as to say that his present opposition to the reelection of the President is due to his failure to get all the patronage that he desired." The New York *Times* (Ind.) and several other papers are demanding that he resign his seat in the Senate, to which he was elected as a Republican. This would not help the party, however, as Governor Smith (Dem.) would no doubt appoint a Democrat to the vacant seat.

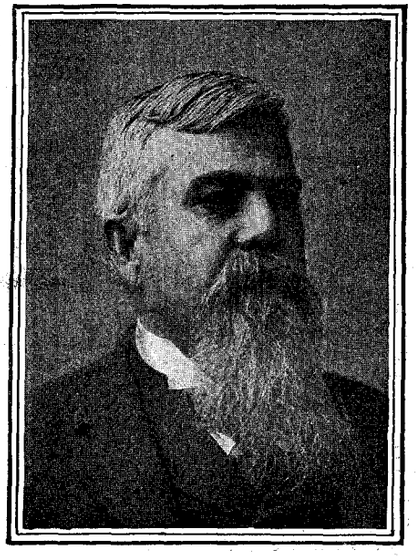
Mr. Olney's declaration for Bryan has caused even more stir than Senator Wellington's. Altho Mr. Olney was never a Republican, he is credited with much of the responsibility for the federal interference with the great railroad strike in Chicago that roused the wrath of the Chicago-platform Democracy. The New York *Telegram* (Ind.) says: "The sensation of a pro-Bryan declaration from Mr. Olney is second only to that which would be produced by a like pronunciamento from Mr. Cleveland," and the Boston *Transcript* (Rep.) says: "That Richard Olney, with his record as a sound-money man, as Cleveland's chief adviser, and as the suppressor of militant Debsism, should now come out for Bryan, who is for fiatism, Populism, and disorder, is surprising even to those familiar with the inconsistencies of politicians who are desirous of regaining lost leadership."

Mr. Olney's reasons for supporting Bryan, as stated in a public letter, seem to be, in short, that that is the best way to defeat "McKinleyism." He says, indeed: "I need hardly say that Mr. Bryan is not the candidate I should choose could I have my way in the matter, and that I entirely dissent from parts of the Kansas City platform." He believes, however, that the election of McKinley "will mean that the American people sanction a syndicated Presidency—a Presidency got for the Republican Party by the money of a combination of capitalists intent upon securing national legislation in aid of their particular interests," and by indorsing his expansion policy will "approve of our joining the ranks of international grabbers" and approve the "tactless and brutal policy" in the Philippines. Further, "it will mean that the American people indorse the policy by which the United States of America sets up in business as an Asiatic power, and welcomes the large standing armies, the increased naval forces, the new administrative agencies, the enlarged and more costly diplomatic service, the onerous taxes, the international complications and the entangling alliances which and all of which, are the inevitable incidents and consequences of the Oriental rôle to which McKinleyism has undertaken to pledge us," and "it will mean that the American people either do not see, or, seeing, approve the great and growing, if not already overwhelming, influence of money in our politics." In view of all this, he finds that "in the defeat of the Republican Party in the coming election lies the only hope of the reversal of those policies and the beginning of a return to more wholesome policies."

The Baltimore *Sun* (Dem.) calls Mr. Olney's letter "convincing," and declares that he "has delivered a message to the American people, especially to Gold Democrats, which should bring every thoughtful and patriotic man to the support of Mr. Bryan." The Philadelphia *Record* (Ind. Dem.) remarks that "there are many Democrats like Mr. Olney, and Mr. McKinley has done nothing to win their favor." On the other side, the New York *Sun* (Rep.) thinks that the letter is sadly lacking in the sane, intellectual qualities usually shown by Mr. Olney, and says: "The friends of Mr. Olney can hardly avoid the conclusion, after reading his letter, that its purpose is not to ascertain by candid examination the duty of good citizenship, but to present any and every colorable excuse for dodging duty for the sake of self-satisfaction in the mere matter of political nomenclature." The New York *Press* (Rep.) and the Boston *Transcript* (Rep.) express the suspicion that Mr. Olney may have 1904 and a Presidential nomination in view.

SENATOR CAFFERY FOR PRESIDENT.

ONE more ticket has been placed in the field by the nomination last week of Donelson Caffery, of Louisiana, for President, and Archibald M. Howe, of Cambridge, Mass., for Vice-President, by a gathering at Carnegie Music Hall in New York City. The delegates called the new organization the "National" Party, and adopted a platform which opposes expansion, favors "a single gold standard and a sound banking system," "a public service based on merit only," and "the abolition of all corrupting special privileges, whether under the guise of subsidies, bounties, undeserved pensions, or trust-breeding tariffs." Several papers which have been unable to support either Bryan or McKinley without reserve find this ticket and platform much to their liking. Thus the Hartford *Times* (Ind. Dem.) calls the new organization's platform "a brilliant condensation into the briefest possible form of the purposes which ought to animate the citizens of a free and enlightened republic," and the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.) says that if the gathering of the sixty or seventy men who launched the movement was not large in numbers, "it was strong in character, in high purpose, and the faith that is willing to take the initiative, to submit to a day of small things, and to labor diligently for greater results in the future." Most of the newspapers ridicule the promoters of the new party and tell them that they ought to make a choice between the two leading parties, instead of "firing in the air." *The Yale Review*, however, says that "such a choice of evils inevitably begets political cynicism and indifference, both of which constitute the most favorable environment for corruption. . . . The burden of the campaign is thus shifted from the defense of a positive policy to abusing your opponents and magnifying the dangers of their success. The natural recourse in a situation like the present is the nomination of candidates on a platform which combines financial and political conservatism—fidelity equally to American credit and American ideals." And the New York *Evening*



DONELSON CAFFERY, OF LOUISIANA.

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Post (Ind.) remarks that if the bosses have their way and every voter is content to vote for the lesser of two evils, "voting will soon be reduced to a smelling-match to see which egg offered the voters is the least addled. A great many citizens would like political food good in itself, not simply by comparison."

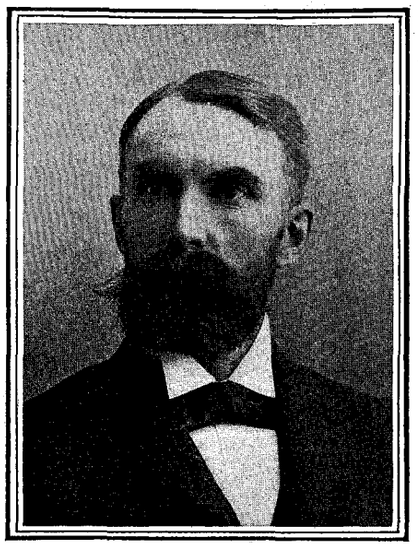
Senator Caffery, the nominee for the Presidency, is warmly commended by papers of every political persuasion as a man of honesty, ability, and courage. His retirement from the Democratic Party is said to be due to his opposition to free silver, and his hostility to the Democratic "machine" in Louisiana.

An example of the ridicule with which the new movement is greeted may be seen in the following comment from the Brooklyn *Eagle* (Ind.):

"Thus is the gaiety of the nation promoted in hot weather. We have now the Pie Biters and the Octopusters, the Drys and the Swallows, the Nationalists or Twenty-Seveners, three brands of Socialists, and the Silver Republicans entered in the Presidential race. Pride in one's own opinion and a genius for advertising are the controlling motives of all these side-show parties. They are made of the men fated to be eleventh jurors, wiser than the whole panel. Their members were born kicking, and they have kept up the exercise so long that it is doubtful if they can stop, even after the lights are turned out and the reporters have gone home."

MEANING OF THE VERMONT AND ARKANSAS ELECTIONS.

THE Republican plurality of about 32,000 in Vermont, and the Democratic plurality of about 40,000 in Arkansas in their state elections last week take on an added interest as straws which may show which way the political breezes are blowing. In Vermont the Republican plurality shows a falling-off of 7,000 or 8,000 since 1896, while in Arkansas the Democratic plurality shows a falling-off of 15,000 in the same time, so that the Philadelphia *Times* (Ind.) declares that "Vermont may be set off against Arkansas as determining nothing of the prospects of McKinley or of Bryan." Other papers, however, some of them, like the New York *Evening Post* (Ind.) and the Springfield *Republican* (Ind.), not favorable to Republican success, note the curious fact that since 1872 a Republican plurality of over 25,000 in Vermont in September has always been followed by a Republican victory in the nation at large in November, while a Republican plurality of less than 25,000 has always been followed by a defeat for that party in the November national election. The conclusion is drawn, from last week's election in Vermont, therefore, that McKinley will be reelected, but by a smaller margin than in 1896. While these opposition papers, however, see in the Vermont result an omen favorable to McKinley's success, the Philadelphia *Ledger* (Rep.) takes a decidedly different view of it. Noticing that the Republican vote in Vermont shows a falling-off of 10 per cent. since 1896, while the Democratic vote was increased 14 per cent., *The Ledger* says:



WILLIAM W. STICKNEY (REP.),
Vermont's new Governor.

"A corresponding change throughout the Union at the Presidential election in November would result in the election of Mr. Bryan without the aid of New York. Deducting 10 per cent. from the Republican vote for McKinley in 1896 and adding 14 per cent. to the Democratic vote for Bryan would leave New York Republican by 200,000, but it would turn over a dozen other States having sixty-nine electoral votes to the Democrats, and would give Bryan altogether 245 electoral votes to 202 for McKinley. The States voting for McKinley in 1896, but which would vote for Bryan if the vote should change as in Vermont, are Delaware, Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio, Oregon, and West Virginia. Iowa and North Dakota would remain Republican, but by very small majorities.

"It is not believed that this result will follow, but this calculation serves to show what a small change is needed under the electoral system to turn some important States from one party to another. It also serves to admonish the Republicans not to be too sure of reelecting President McKinley."

JEFFERSON DAVIS (DEM.),
New Governor of Arkansas.

The New York *Sun* (Rep.) finds food for reflection in "the indifference of both political parties to the election of Monday in Arkansas, due to the fact that "there was no possibility of its indicating anything except political stolidity. "And, it continues:

"That discreditable political condition prevails throughout the old Confederate States. Nobody turns to them with any inquiry even in this campaign in which vital national interests are involved, for really no national issue will be voted on in them next November. Only a small part of their citizens will go to the polls, and of those all except a very few will vote for Bryan and free silver as a matter of course. They would be equally solid for the Democratic candidate, no matter who he was or what issues he represented, whether they were 'Democratic principles' or principles diametrically opposed to those of the party of Jefferson.

"The inevitable consequence has been the loss to the South of all political respect. Even the Democratic Party pays no heed to it, and does not need to pay any. Bryan's campaign is made wholly without reference to political opinion in these Southern States. The minority of their citizens possessing the suffrage will give him their electoral votes as certainly as if they were puppets worked at his will and not reasonable beings.

"Is not this a terrible humiliation for States once powerful in molding American political sentiment and the birthplace of many of the most illustrious men in American political history? The little Green Mountain State, the home of freedom of thought and discussion, has consequence as a political barometer, but elections in these eleven States no more indicate the opinion and

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conviction on great national issues absorbing the interest of all the rest of the Union than if they were inhabited wholly by people incapable of thought.

"Alas, alas! for those once great and powerful States, four of which were noble members of the original Union of thirteen, while from the whole eleven came nine of the twenty-five Presidents of the Republic, including George Washington, the first."

THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER OF ACCEPTANCE.

PRESIDENT McKINLEY'S letter accepting his renomination is received with characteristic comment by the Republican and Democratic press. The New York *Sun* (Rep.), for example, declares that it might serve as a presidential message to Congress, and that "as such, it would take high rank among the ablest and most satisfactory state papers that have dignified the official annals of this Government at the most eventful periods of our national history," and the Philadelphia *Press* (Rep.) says that "no better record of stewardship has been made by an American President." On the other side, the New York *World* (Ind. Dem.), while admitting that the President's letter is able and dignified, calls it "adroit in its omissions."

The President places the money issue first in his letter, and calls on the nation to defeat again the Democratic financial "heresy." He presents a sheaf of statistics to show the country's unprecedented prosperity, and makes the important statement that "unless something unforeseen occurs to reduce our revenues or increase our expenditures, the Congress at its next session should reduce taxation very materially." As regards "trusts," he makes the unequivocal declaration that "combinations of capital which control the market in commodities necessary to the general use of the people, by suppressing natural and ordinary competition, thus enhancing prices to the general consumer, are obnoxious to the common law and the public welfare. They are dangerous conspiracies against the public good, and should be made the subject of prohibitory or penal legislation."

Both the Republican and the Democratic press accept the President's treatment of the Philippine question, however, as the most important part of his letter. The New York *Tribune* (Rep.) remarks that Mr. McKinley's handling of this question "places the Democratic candidate under obligations to stop phrase-making and soberly tell what Mr. McKinley could have done, what he himself would have done had he occupied the Executive chair, to avoid the present situation in the Philippines and save the country from the menace of imperialism about which he is so much concerned." After extensive quotations from his instructions to the Paris peace commission and the various Philippine commissions and their reports to show that this Government always had in view the welfare of the Philippine people, the President says:

"Every effort has been directed to their peace and prosperity, their advancement and well-being, not for our aggrandizement nor for pride of might, not for trade or commerce, not for exploitation, but for humanity and civilization, and for the protection of the vast majority of the population who welcome our sovereignty against the designing minority, whose first demand after the surrender of Manila by the Spanish army was to enter the city that they might loot it and destroy those not in sympathy with their selfish and treacherous designs."

As regards the future of the islands he declares:

"It is our purpose to establish in the Philippines a government suitable to the wants and conditions of the inhabitants and to prepare them for self-government and to give them self-government when they are ready for it and as rapidly as they are ready for it."

And of Mr. Bryan's plan to give the Filipinos independence under a United States protectorate he says:

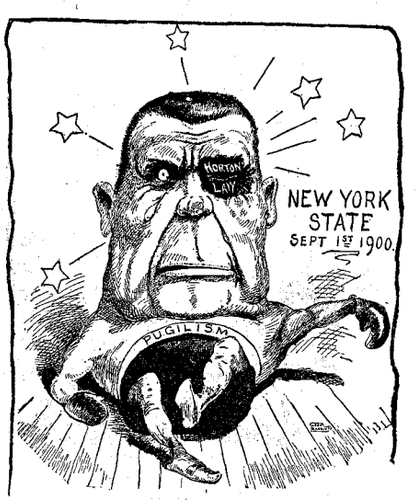
"As a protectorate power we could not initiate action, but would be compelled to follow and uphold a people with no capacity yet to go alone. In the one case we can protect both ourselves and the Filipinos from being involved in dangerous complications; in the other we could not protect even the Filipinos until after their trouble had come. Besides, if we can not establish any government of our own without the consent of the governed, as our opponents contend, then we could not establish a stable government for them or make ours a protectorate without the like consent, and neither the majority of the people nor a minority of the people have invited us to assume it."

Mr. McKinley sums up the case by saying that the question "is between duty and desertion."

"The unusual quality of the entire letter," says the New York *Sun* (Rep.), "with its temperately worded and calmly reasoned statement of results and purposes, will, we think, impress every reader. The tone of the letter of acceptance marks the immeasurable distance between the responsible servant of the people, who has justly earned their confidence, and the political adventurer boxing the compass of sophistical and passionate rhetoric in his frantic bid for office." The New York *World*, on the other hand, declares that "Mr. McKinley wholly neglects the main point—the effect upon our ideas and institutions and the wasteful costliness in blood and treasure of an attempt to make over a republic into an empire reaching out for inferior races to rule as subjects." A more extensive view of American press comment on the President's letter will be presented in these columns next week.

END OF NEW YORK'S "SATURNALIA OF PUGILISM."

NOT only the New York papers, but the press of many other cities take occasion to comment on the "prize-fighting debauch" which has been in progress in New York all summer, and ended September 1 by the new law repealing the Horton law. Since the Horton law was enacted there have been 3,350 prize fights in New York, netting $900,000 to the pugilists and $1,600,000 to the promoters. The Cleveland *Plain Dealer* calls the "debauch" "a disgrace to the American metropolis," and says that it "has had a demoralizing effect upon the public which will be felt for months or years"; and the Chicago *Times-Herald* declares that "no frontier town in any new State, no wide-open city that we know of anywhere, ever approximated its phenomenal and disgraceful record." The Chicago *Tribune* says:



KNOCKED OUT.
—*The Brooklyn Eagle.*

"The new law, repealing the Horton law, will put an end to all kinds of fighting. It prohibits prize-fighting and sparring exhibitions and makes guilty of misdemeanor not only those persons who engage in such exhibitions but those who instigate or promote them, those who train the bruisers, and those who receive or send a challenge. The new law leaves no option with the police. It can not be construed in any way so as to admit of any sparring exhibition. Until it in turn shall be repealed and some less rigid statute put in its place exhibitions of this kind in New York will be at an end.

"The bruisers themselves have recognized the inevitable and

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with as good a grace as possible have submitted because they can find no other way out of it. It may now be expected that they will migrate to other and more convenient localities, where the law will not stand in their way. Chicago may catch some of the smaller fry, but the big bruisers will not find inducements to come here. There are plenty of places, however, where they can maul each other to their heart's content, tho receipts will fall off, compared with New York. In the mean time, the Eastern metropolis is to be congratulated that it will be rid of their presences and that the schemes of prize-ring politicians and promoters will no longer be of avail or profit. It has rid itself of a pestilent gang."

A REMEDY FOR CORRUPT POLITICAL IDEALS.

CHRISTIANS of almost all schools profess to believe that the moral principles of the Sermon on the Mount should be the dominating influence in all relations of life, public as well as private; but observers of contemporary politics, both domestic and international, are frequently constrained to admit that the great ethical laws of justice, honesty, and love of neighbor are far from being the predominant principles which govern public affairs in Christendom to-day. A recent writer, Dr. Percival, Bishop of Hereford, England, admits that the present moral standards of public life are almost disheartening to professors of the religion that has for so many centuries been the chief moral teacher of men and nations in Europe and Ameriea. In *The Nineteenth Century* (August) he writes:

"There stands before us the plain fact, and it is a fact far too generally disregarded or ignored, that after eighteen centuries of Christian teaching and influence in Europe, a great deal of our public life, both at home and abroad, altho in the hands of Christian statesmen, is to all practical intents and purposes still carried on as if the Sermon on the Mount had never been spoken and only the lower or selfish motives had a rightful claim to exercise dominion in practical affairs.

"It is not that action and practise are constantly falling short of the acknowledged and accepted standard of ethical duty. This we should expect to occur in public as in private matters. The point is that honest and good men do not seem to recognize those standards of ethical judgment which they accept without question in private life, as having the same claim on their allegiance in the arena of politics, or in the relationships of nations. 'Blindness in part is happened to Israel.' We turn, for instance, to that sphere which furnishes the most glaring instances of this strange inconsistency, the sphere of international politics. In these we see how, again and again, there is hardly more than a thinly veiled pretence of any appeal to the higher standards of ethical obligation, or to the spirit of Christianity. The terms in which national or imperial aims and policy are defined and the spirit in which international affairs are conducted are such as to make it only too plain that the whole structure of foreign politics, and also a great part of internal politics, is built upon a foundation of selfishness, jealousy, rivalry, greed of power and wealth, and not upon any higher or Christian basis. Thus twenty-six centuries after the prophet Isaiah, twenty-three centuries after Socrates, and nineteen centuries after the Manifestation of Christ, we see, so to speak, whole continents of life, opinion, and practise still under the dominion of that spirit of selfish greed which St. Paul denounced as pleonexia, and held up to view as lying very near to the root of all that is vicious in human life.

"By way of illustration reference might be made to many contemporary events or to events within the memory of most of us; but it may suffice to note the impression made by the current phenomena of public affairs on some of the great writers and thinkers. Mr. Herbert Spencer has forcibly reminded us that men seem to give their allegiance, as it were, to two religions, the religion of amity and the religion of enmity, for use in different departments of life and conduct. The real homage is paid in large measure, if not in the larger measure, to the code dictated by enmity. From the books of the New Testament we take our religion of amity. Greek and Latin epics and histories serve as gospels for our religion of enmity. In the education of our youth we devote a small portion of time to the one, and a large portion of time to the other. *A priori* it might be thought impossible that men should continue through life holding two doctrines which are mutually destructive. But this ability to compromise between conflicting beliefs is very remarkable. . . .

"Another distinguished writer [Frederic Harrison] has said that the key to all rational estimate of European politics is to recognize that the dominant factor in them to-day is the passion of national self-assertion, the struggle for national primacy. For right or wrong the great nations are resolved to make themselves as big, as formidable, as extensive, as rich as science and energy can make them, or at least to tolerate no other nation bigger than themselves. . . . . .

"Again, the most distinguished man of letters now engaged in English political life is reported to have said only the other day, when referring to the prevalent sentiment on our South African policy, that the language of England hardly affects to be moral language; it is the language of pride, of mastery, of force, of violence, of revenge. And as we read the sentiments that pervade a great portion of the newspaper press, and the language used by some leading and representative men, it is not possible for us to deny the essential truth of such criticism. But the specially noticeable point about it in our consideration of the ethical question is that all this language seems to be used in good faith by men who, while thus recognizing, accepting, and even helping to propagate pride and self-interest as the dominant motives in public life, are all the time professing obedience to the moral standards of the Gospel, and joining in the customary and special worship of the Christian Church, and this, to all appearance, without any distinct feeling of inconsistency."

Dr. Percival, who as former headmaster of Rugby School, and president of Trinity College, Oxford, has had a wide acquaintance with current English educational methods, believes that this divorce of public and private ethics is due to the "prevalent lack of any systematic training of the young in the right application of moral principles to the details of their public life." The remedy is, first of all, direct religious teaching, and, next, systematic training of the young in the ethics of citizenship. He proposes the establishment of ethical societies in all the chief centers of national life as ever-present witnesses and teachers of the higher law in all the walks of life. The bishop concludes:

"If such societies are really to fulfil their mission, they must, like Socrates, carry their teaching into the market-place, so as to make it heard and make its power felt in all the practical activities of the national life. In proportion to our need amid the blinding, traditional, materialistic, and selfish influences that are continually acting on men, in a complex industrial and commercial civilization, is the greatness of the benefit which such societies may bestow upon the community; and it may be taken as beyond question that one of our special needs is a far more systematic propaganda of social and political ethics, a propaganda led, informed, directed by a central ethical association, with its active local branches in all the great centers of provincial life; and all of them making it their aim to inspire the teaching of the young, to supply suitable manuals of instruction, to lead public opinion, especially the opinion of all bodies of teachers, and so to help us a little nearer to that better day when the highest ideals of ethical conduct shall have become the dominant forces in both private and public affairs."

The New York *Evening Post* (August 16), commenting on the bishop's suggestions for reform, says:

"We can but think that there is a more fundamental difficulty which they do not quite reach. The reason for the corruption of political life is not so much lack of knowledge as lack of consistent action, due to the intensity of party spirit. It is not that we do not know the right, but that, knowing the right, we still follow the party, right or wrong. In other words, we have not what the economists call an 'effective desire' in the matter of political righteousness, and simply do not apply the standards which we know well enough should be applied. Notwithstanding earnest and intelligent religious and moral teaching—never more earnest and intelligent than now—the average man still lives in two worlds, practically distinct, and with no points of vital contact

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between the two. It is the dead weight of every attempt at reform, the most subtle danger of young men, and the gravest menace to the stability of government itself. It is hard to see how any process of education, however carefully and persistently wrought, can reach such a condition of moral apathy, unless it be the kind of education which, like religious awakenings of former years, works so powerfully upon the emotions and the imagination as to rouse whole communities to emancipation from party servitude. Certainly, there are many signs that such a moral quickening is fast becoming the only hope of our political salvation."

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON'S STORY OF WASTED PIANO.

THE central idea of Booker T. Washington's plan for uplifting the colored race in America, as he presents it in his new book on "The Future of the American Negro," is graphically given in the following brief extracts from its pages:

"One of the saddest sights I ever saw was the placing of a three-hundred-dollar rosewood piano in a country school in the South that was located in the midst of the 'Black Belt.' Am I arguing against the teaching of instrumental music to the negroes in that community? Not at all; only I should have deferred those music lessons about twenty-five years. There are numbers of such pianos in thousands of New England homes. But behind the piano in the New England home there are one hundred years of toil, sacrifice, and economy; there is the small manufacturing industry, started several years ago by hand power, now grown into a great business; there is ownership in land, a comfortable home, free from debt, and a bank account. In this 'Black Belt' community where this piano went, four fifths of the people owned no land, many lived in rented one-room cabins, many were in debt for food supplies, many mortgaged their crops for the food on which to live, and not one had a bank account. In this case, how much wiser it would have been to have taught the girls in this community sewing, intelligent and economical cooking, housekeeping, something of dairying and horticulture? The boys should have been taught something of farming in connection with their common-school education, instead of awakening in them a desire for a musical instrument which resulted in their parents going into debt for a third-rate piano or organ before a home was purchased. Industrial lessons would have awakened, in this community, a desire for homes, and would have given the people the ability to free themselves from industrial slavery to the extent that most of them would have soon purchased homes. After the home and the necessaries of life were supplied could come the piano. One piano lesson in a home of one's own is worth twenty in a rented log cabin.

"All that I have just written, and the various examples illustrating it, show the present helpless condition of my people in the South; how fearfully they lack the primary training for good living and good citizenship; how much they stand in need of a solid foundation on which to build their future success. I believe, as I have many times said in my various addresses in the North and the South, that the main reason for the existence of this curious state of affairs is the lack of practical training in the ways of life. . . . . .

"There is in the heads of the negro youth of the South enough general and floating knowledge of chemistry, of botany, of zoology, of geology, of mechanics, of electricity, of mathematics, to reconstruct and develop a large part of the agricultural, mechanical, and domestic life of the race. But how much of it is brought to a focus along lines of practical work? In cities of the South like Atlanta, how many colored mechanical engineers are there, or how many machinists? How many civil engineers? How many architects? How many house decorators? In the whole State of Georgia, where 80 per cent. of the colored people depend upon agriculture, how many men are there who are well grounded in the principles and practises of scientific farming, or dairy work, or fruit culture, or floriculture? . . . . . .

"Some time ago, when we decided to make tailoring a part of our training at the Tuskegee Institute, I was amazed to find that it was almost impossible to find in the whole country an educated colored man who could teach the making of clothing. We could find them by the score who could teach astronomy, theology, grammar, or Latin, but almost none who could instruct in the making of clothing, something that has to be used by every one of us every day in the year. How often has my heart been made to sink as I have gone through the South and into the homes of people, and found women who could converse intelligently on Grecian history, who had studied geometry, could analyze the most complex sentences, and yet could not analyze the poorly cooked and still more poorly served corn bread and fat meat that they and their families were eating three times a day! It is little trouble to find girls who can locate Peking or the Desert of Sahara on an artificial globe, but seldom can you find one who can locate on an actual dinner-table the proper place for the carving knife and fork or the meat and vegetables."

DEATH OF ARTHUR SEWALL.

A NUMBER of comments were called forth last week by the death of Arthur Sewall, the Maine shipbuilder who was Mr. Bryan's running mate four years ago. The papers pretty generally agree that he was a better business man than a politician. The Philadelphia *Times* (Ind.), for example, observes that he was "a remarkable example of a shrewd and successful business man who not merely made a failure in politics but actually was deprived of the reputation that he deserved by the spurious reputation acquired in a campaign in which he bore no actual part." The New York *Sun* (Rep.) says of his business career:

ARTHUR SEWALL.

"He was an honorable business man, a great captain of industry, the successful organizer of combinations of capital, a bank and railroad president, a thoroughgoing protectionist, and one of the pioneer expansionists of the present generation of American expansionists. Few men of the present time saw earlier than Mr. Sewall did, or appreciated more accurately the future possibilities of American commerce on the Pacific. His ships were on every sea. He built and sailed them. He maintained tenaciously, and at the last almost alone, the ancient prestige and glory of the wooden shipyards of the New England coast. He conducted, consolidated, and managed railroads. His theoretical views and practical achievements into which his remarkable personal energy took him were broadly American and in no sense partizan."

TOPICS IN BRIEF.

IT looks as if there would be nothing left for Waldersee to do but to sit down and pound out a few victories on his typewriter.—*The Chicago Record.*

IT may take some time to determine whether the looting of Tien-Tsin comes under the head of duty or destiny.—*The Charleston News and Courier.*

SAVED FROM THE OTHER FELLOWS.—This country is going to be saved from ruin in November, no matter which party executes the contract.—*The Philadelphia Ledger.*

COLONEL BRYAN says we can not secure title to a people by force or by purchase. According to this theory we must have acquired Louisiana and Texas on a Christmas-tree.—*The St. Louis Globe-Democrat.*

WHEN the amount of loot that can be gathered in the other large cities of China is taken into consideration, the temptation to extend still further the blessings of civilization is almost irresistible.—*The Detroit News.*

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LETTERS AND ART.

THE CHINESE AS POETS.

THOSE who have visited Chinatown in San Francisco or New York, or who know the Chinese principally upon the side of the domestic utilities, will probably find it difficult to believe that this people possess a poetic literature which contains passages said to be as tender as any sung by the Hellenic bards. This literature exists in voluminous collections which are yet unknown to Europe and America. A writer in the New York *Mail and Express* (August 4), who has heard several educated Chinese in New York recite some of these native poems, writes:

"In lyrical poetry the most distinguished writers are Li Thai Pe and Tu Su, both of whom flourished at the beginning of the eighth century. A. D. Davis, in his 'On the Poetry of the Chinese,' in the 'Transactions of the Royal Society,' speaks highly of their verses. The romantic poetry of the Chinese, altho void of poetic beauty according to the Caucasian standard, is valuable for the insight it gives into their domestic life. Their dramatic poetry has laws peculiar to itself, and resembles partly the romantic drama of the Germans and partly the Comedia delle Arte of the Italians. . . . . .

"An example of philosophy is found in the following verses from Tai Ya, extracted from a collection of odes written under the first emperors of the Cheu dynasty. During the time of Le Wang, B.C. 850, the affairs of the state were in disorder, and thus Tai Ya complains:

Against that mild and hostile gale
The panting traveler's strength must fail.
Willingly would the people bring
Good words of wisdom to their king;
But ah! they are compelled to say,
The time to act is far away.
It would be better for us now
To seek the fields and delve and plow;
Resign state service, and instead
Toil with the people for our bread.
To labor in the fields all day,
It is a heavy price to pay;
But it were better not to grieve
And earn by toil wherewith to live.

"The ancient poet Su was evidently a lover of sylvan solitude, and, as a poet born, one whose communion with nature taught to him many philosophies. His reference to the 'gay world' will strike as a queer note upon the sensibilities of surfeited New York. This is what he says:

To a new and lovely home'
Seeking quiet I have come,
Cherishing, while none intrude,
Thoughts in love and solitude.
Mountain prospects front my door,
And the Tung flows on before.
In its waters deep I see
Images of house and tree.
'Neath that thicket of bamboo
Snow lies all the winter through.
In my darkened cottage home
Long ere nightfall all is gloom.

"Of the modern Chinese poets, Commissioner Lin, or, as the Emperor dubbed him, Wan Chung Kung, 'the literary and faithful,' was among the most noted. He was born in Fuh-Chow-Foo about 1787, was distinguished as a scholar, and held many high offices under the Government. He was commissioned in 1838 and charged 'to punish the consumers of opium,' wherein the activity and vigor of his policy was the immediate cause of hastening the rupture between England and China and of bringing on the 'opium war.' In consequence of his too faithful discharge of duty he was banished to E-li, a desolate region of the far northwest territories of China, and while on his banishment there these stanzas were written:

Proud towers the frowning wall that bounds the west,
Here the tired exile reins his steed—to rest.
Turret on turret in mid-air suspended
Till with the distant woods of Shen-se blended;
Tower rears on tower upon the Sze-Chuen clouds,
And mighty mountain upon mountain crowds;
Their craggy peaks up to heaven's bound do rise,
While the waste's vast extension dims men's eyes.

"'There is a charm of real tenderness in Lin's verses to his wife, expressing the delight he felt at receiving her portrait—assurance in his exile of her unchangeable affection. She is spoken of as a woman of high education, but appears to have suffered from some deformity in her hands, to which he makes allusion in his address. This is only an extract:

Like the wild water-fowls, in mutual love
Each upon each dependent, did we move;
But now—grief-stricken—a poor, lonely man,
I roam in desolate exile! Still the ban
Of separation is less hard from thee—
Beloved! than would the horse-hide cerement be!
Why should I weep?—I breathe the mountain air,
Altho a herdsman's humble garb I wear—
Yet I must weep—for my mind's troubled eye
Sees thee on suffering's couch of misery:
The gay cosmetics all neglected—thou
Dost never need the flattering mirror now;
Yet thy fair characters in verse outpoured,
Have raptured all my soul—mine own adored!
I see thee—welcome thee—in every line,
Whose every pencil touch, dear Wife, is thine!"

PETER ALTENBERG: A VIENNESE IMPRESSIONIST.

AN interesting member of the young Austrian school of writers is Herr Peter Altenberg, who has achieved a reputation in Vienna more quickly than any other writer of recent years. He is rather difficult to classify as an author, for his work can not be called either play, novel, or short story. The two volumes upon which his fame rests—"*Wie ich es sehe*" ("As I See It") and "Ashantee"—are little prose lyrics, piquant scenes, often not over half a dozen lines and never over two or three pages in length, but possessing a distinctive note of their own, a seductive and yet elusive *Wienerisch* charm. A writer in *Literature* (London, August 11) says of him:

"Herr Altenberg is a Viennese of the Viennese. He knows how to depict in a few simple words every *nuance* of life in the most decadent city in the world. He has been called the Maeterlinck of every-day life. His art not only reveals the dress and bearing of a group of figures, but in one vivid flash one gets a glimpse into the soul beneath. His is essentially the genius of suggestion, and in a few lines he can indicate a truer picture of Viennese manners than could be gained by plodding through a whole library of the Austrian novels of Miss Gerard. Herr Altenberg never goes beyond those blue pine-girdled Austrian lakes where in summer Vienna bathes, boats, and makes holiday. 'Ashantee' suggests travel in the land of fetishes and the grave failures, but 'Ashantee' is in the Vienna Zoological Gardens, and in a series of staccato dialogs the writer records his ethnological flirtations with dusky exotic beauties encamped there for a season. In none of his pages does the dramatic moment occur in which a man comes face to face with his fate. Men, women, and children stand on the threshold of life, decked out for life, like a bride for her bridegroom, waiting for something to happen, lacking the courage to bid their slumbering passions wake. There is in some of Altenberg's figures much that is symbolical of the passing away of the old Austrian type, and of the appearance of a newer and robuster race. The aspirations of modern Austria are enshrined in the following little impressionist picture:

'Fishing must be very slow,' remarked a grown-up young lady who knew as much about fishing as most young ladies.

'If it was slow I shouldn't fish,' said the girl-child with golden-brown hair and long gazelle-like legs. She stood on the bank fishing with all the imperturbable gravity of the angler. She took the fish she had caught off the hook and dashed it on the ground.

The fish died.

The lake lay flashing in the sunlight. There was a fragrance of reeds and rushes, water forget-me-nots, and irises in the air. Through the open windows of the hotel came the rattle of plates and knives and forks. The little fish danced a short wild dance on the ground, such as savages dance—and died.

The child went on fishing with all the imperturbable gravity of the angler. 'Je ne permettrais jamais que ma fille s'adonnât à une occupation si cruelle,' said a lady who sat on a seat not far off. The child took the fish she had caught off the hook and dashed it on the ground close to the lady's feet. The fish died. It leaped, wriggling in the air, and then fell back dead. A sim-

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ple enough death. It even forgot to dance; it just jumped into eternity without more ado.

'Oh, dear!' exclaimed the lady, 'how cruel!' And yet on the intent face of the cruel little angler with the golden-brown hair and the gazelle-like legs, lay promise of a profound beauty and a dawning soul.

The face of the aristocratic compassionate lady was faded, insipid—a wreck. She would never bring light, joy, and warmth into any one's life again; therefore she felt for the fish.

'Why should it die when it still had life in it?' she thought, as another fish turned a somersault, and then died a simple, quiet death.

The child went on fishing with all the imperturbable gravity of the angler. She made a charming picture with her great earnest eyes, her golden-brown hair, and her gazelle-like legs.

Perhaps one day she too would be sorry for the fish and say 'Je ne permettrais jamais que ma fille s'adonnât à une occupation si cruelle!'

But such tender emotions only spring up on the grave of dead hopes and vanished dreams. So, lovely child, fish on!

All unconsciously you are exercising your divine prerogative.

Kill the poor little fish, and fish on!

"Altenberg's motto 'Mon verre n'est pas grand, mais je bois dans mon verre!' ['My glass is not large, but I drink out of it'] is significant of his ideal of compression. But in his two slender volumes of pen-pictures he has been successful in epitomizing all the grace and culture, the tears and smiles of modern Vienna."

A NEW CANADIAN ANTHOLOGY OF VERSE.

A VOLUME lately published in London, containing the work of 135 Canadian poets, has received somewhat reserved criticism from the hands of the English reviewers, who, having shown their willingness to applaud the Canadian spirit of imperialism during war-time, seem to condemn the lack of it in Canadian verse. While commending the effort of the Canadians to create a distinctive type of poetry, the critics judge severely what they regard as a feeble imitation, upon a new soil, of the traditions of English poetry. The London *Academy* says:

"Save for scenic distinctions, patriotic Canadian allusions, this volume is much like a collection of lesser English verse. It does not show that Canada is yet 'going strong' in poetry. There is evidently much fertility, much fluency, but a conspicuous lack of condensation. The ballad, which Mr. Kipling has made the fashionable form in England, does not seem to flourish in Canada as in its sister-colony, Australia. There is nothing here, for example, like the ringing and swinging verses of the Australian Lawson. Nor yet is Canada eminent in meditative verse—sparse enough in England since Mr. Watson 'cares not his idle bagpipe up to raise' (the expression is Spenser's, not ours!) and Mr. A. C. Benson has fallen silent. Descriptive poetry, or lyrics chiming of external nature, and the joy—sometimes the melancholy—of life; these make up by far the bulk of this collection. Shelley—stripped of metaphysics and the flush of imagery fallen from him; Keats, without condensation of phrase and figure; such seem to be the dominant inspiration of Canada. Something, at times, of Tennyson one naturally finds; rarely of Matthew Arnold. Once only we find the trace of Edgar Poe: Emerson and the other American poets seem to be uninfluential."

Of this vast array of poets, there is but one who seems to have met with marked praise, and that is Mr. Bliss Carman, of whom *The Academy* writes:

"In him the Canadian fondness for external nature and the *joie de vivre* culminates, reaches fulfilment and distinction. Has he not indeed sung—and sung bravely—of 'the outward eye,' as Wordsworth did of 'the inward eye'? That was in the 'Songs from Vagabondia,' where his work, indistinguishably mixed with Mr. Richard Hovey's, naturally fails to obtain for him individual credit. But all his work is a song of the outward eye, full of manhood and the 'shrill spirit' of the open wind, in which no morbidity can live. It is not always perfect poetry, it does not always 'come off,' and he is not careful to bring it off when the shaping impulse fails; he is not, that is to say, eminently an artist; but it is good to walk with Mr. Carman on the road of life—and how many modern poets are good travel-comrades? Flashes, too, there are of deeper things, struck off with an adventurous individuality, hardy things which give you a pleased fillip of surprise. Of this poet Canada may with right be proud."

In the same way, *The St. James's Gazette* calls Mr. Carman a poet with "a certain vague, sunset individuality"; but the reviewer does not hesitate to say of the Canadian anthology as a whole that it contains "stuff" showing "sheer, staring incompetence," whose "perusal leaves us with a rather depressing view of Canadian verse and Canadian criticism."

GOOD TIDINGS FOR STUDENTS OF THE FRENCH LANGUAGE.

THE superior board of public instruction in France, whose discussions ordinarily receive but little attention from the general public, has just made a decision which can not fail to cause a great commotion. It refers to nothing less than a remodeling of French grammar—a revolutionary modification of the syntax and orthography in the direction of simplification. We quote the following particulars from the *Courrier des Etats-Unis*:

"We are compelled, considering the general interest in the subject, to enter into some details which are necessarily rather dry. Let us begin with the substantive. The words *aigle*, *amour*, *orgue*, *délice*, *hymne*, *automne*, *enfant*, *œuvre*, *orge*, *periode*, *paques*, *gens*, which until now have been subject to perilous vagaries in regard to gender, are brought back to habits of the greatest simplicity. As to proper names and foreign words whose plurals were often full of traps for the unwary, they all follow the same rule. One now is to write, the *Corneilles*, the *te-deums*, the *ex-votos*, etc.

"Neither does the article escape reform. Before a proper noun it is never obligatory. It is perfectly correct to say *Dante*, or *Tasse*. Neither are you forced to write any longer *de bon fruits*, if you prefer *des bons fruits*. Finally, you may choose between *le plus*, *le moins*, *les plus*, *les moins*, in the difficult cases with which you are acquainted. Still more important are the changes in those confounded (excuse the warmth of the expression, the French word is even stronger) compound words whose equivocal agreements, whose hypothetical hyphens, whose plurals without regularity, render them the nightmare of children. In a general way it may be said that several elementary words may be joined into a single one, taking the final s in the plural. For example, *des gagnepetits*, *des bassecours*, *des grandrouts*, *des rougegorges*, *des choufleurs*, etc. As for the hyphen and the apostrophe, they are in compound words deliberately condemned.

"The words *nu*, *demi*, *feu*, *joint*, *excepté*, *nouveau-ne*, etc., were not very easy to deal with. Henceforth they will contain no snare and will agree logically with the nouns to which they refer, as *feue ma tante*, *une demie heure*, *aller nus pieds*, etc. The same for *vingt*, *cent*, *mille* (*trois cents vingt*, *mille huit cents*, *quatre vingts dix*). For the expressions indicating a shade of color, and for those little words full of uncertainty such as *tout*, *même aucun chacun*, *l'assemblée toute entière*, *nous mêmes*, etc., the use of all these is to be simplified according to normal rules.

"Without entering into the details of the syntax of the verbs, it is sufficient to say that the rules regulating *plus d'un*, *un peu de c'est*, have been made clearer and more simple, and that the use of the negation *ne* after the verbs of fear, of doubt, etc., is no longer necessary; *de peur qu'il aille* and *à moins qu'il vienne*.

"We have kept the best news for the last. The troublesome imperfect of the subjunctive is no longer required after the conditional; the present will suffice. As to the past participle—that terrible participle, the cause of such countless numbers of headaches, has become more tractable. You will write henceforth, if you please, *les livres que j'ai lu*, and *elles se sont tu*.

"We have purposely said, 'if you please,' for it must be understood that all these simplifications are, at least for the present, provisional. They are only tolerated. Those who have learned the old rules may apply them as heretofore, and will have a perfect right to do so. But, we repeat, it will not be counted a mis-

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take in the first and secondary examinations, if the candidate uses the liberties specified in the foregoing. It is probable that with the next school year these decisions will be followed in the examinations; first in those connected with public instruction, then, after an understanding among the different directors, in examinations of all kinds. Those who are the most to be pitied now are the professors, and above all the examiners, who will be obliged to relearn their grammar to be able to distinguish between what constitutes a mistake and what does not."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WILL INDIANA BECOME THE LITERARY CENTER OF AMERICA?

SINCE the days when the inhabitants of the Western wilderness would cautiously approach the door of the cabin and call out "*Who's yer?*" to the person who knocked after nightfall, the Hoosier has been a man to be reckoned with in national life. Vincennes, in Indiana, was the first capital of the vast Northwest Territory, and here its first laws were drawn up, its first influential church erected, and its first college founded. Later, Indiana began to set the pace for the West in science also, and New Harmony, where the study of geology in America was first organized, became a center of biological science.

Mr. Maurice Thompson, who points out some of these facts in *The Independent* (August 23), believes apparently that Indiana is also to have a sort of literary hegemony over the West, and that it may even perhaps become the center of American art and literature, as it now is of population. He gives a Homeric list of writers who through birth or residence have already brought honor to that State—Henry Ward Beecher, Edward Eggleston, James Whitcomb Riley, John Hay, Joaquin Miller, Robert Dale Owen, John James Piatt, John Clark Ridpath, Lew Wallace, Jacob P. Dunn, Charles Major ("Edward Caskoden"), Booth Tarkington, and others. Whether or not Hoosiers have a right to set up as *littérateurs*, he remarks, a "lusty lot of them have successfully assumed the responsibility"; and he clinches his argument as follows:

"If I say that Miss Anna Nicholas in her 'Wabash Idylls' shows more of the true art of fiction than can be found in any Eastern writer's stories before the days of Hawthorne, I say it to clinch a fact in American literary history. Virginia was an old, old commonwealth when Poe was born. Think of New York's age when Cooper wrote his backwoods romances—of South Carolina's venerable standing during the activity of William Gilmore Simms. Hartford was more than two hundred years advanced when Harriet Beecher Stowe made her home there; but Crawfordsville was not eighty at the advent of 'Ben Hur.' It is thus history talks with brutal independence in its voice. We may have said, 'Who's yer?' for 'Who is here?' in the days of leather latch-strings and flint-lock rifles; but even then we ruled the land from Pennsylvania to the Mississippi and from the Ohio to Canada, and were laying the concrete foundation for the center of population and civilization in America! Old Vincennes was but a huddle of cabins around a mission church and a stockade in the year 1800. Now the heart of the nation's life throbs not fifty miles from the beautiful new city.

"Isn't it time to change the definition of 'Hoosier' and remodel the tradition unrighteously tagged thereupon? 'As Indiana goes, so goes the Union,' may yet be as true in literature as in politics! Have you heard of our Western Association of Writers and our women's clubs? If you haven't, you are slow. Literature is honestly and eagerly studied in Indiana, not by way of a fad, but for the love of it. Education is with us an object rather than a means. We have the best schools in the world—not universities and hoary colleges, indeed—schools for the people; democratic schools in which our entire population is trained to love books. We create a demand for all sorts of good literary wares. Our rural mail-route wagons are already carrying books, magazines, and literary journals to remotest country homes. We are in the great current, and we are happy. Why shall not a 'Hoosier' be a poet if the Muses pull his hair?"

ENGLISH AND AMERICAN VIEWS OF "THE REIGN OF LAW."

MR. JAMES LANE ALLEN'S latest story, which is now the most popular book of the month, is meeting for the most part with friendly treatment from the critics. In England, in spite of a few sneers from the more conservative reviews, the estimate of the book is rather high. *Literature* (August 4) says:

"Tho we can not, hand on heart, pronounce 'The Increasing Purpose' [British for 'The Reign of Law'] to be a very great work of literature, we may safely assert that it will achieve a large success and achieve it on its merits. What are those merits? They do not consist in style, for Mr. Allen spoils an otherwise serviceable style by such phrases as 'a pomological pyramid' (by which he means 'a pile of apples'), and he is occasionally led by a self-conscious endeavor to be picturesque into affected rhetoric and shapeless enumerations that seem to be an echo of Walt Whitman. They do not consist in originality; for those who have watched the career of the religious novel in England, who have lived through the doubts and soul-searchings of a Robert Elsmere or a David Grieve, will find little that is new, intellectually or psychologically, in the increasing purpose of this somewhat grievous David of Kentucky. They can hardly depend upon the interest roused by the characters, for, with the exception of the hero, all the characters of the book are merely sketched in, altho the sketches of the girl whom David woos and wins, of his father and especially of his mother, the farmer's indolent wife 'who lives in her house with the regularity and contentment of an insect in a dead log,' are, so far as they go, indeed admirable. The success of the book will be due to merits quite other than these. The tone of the author, who deals with the doubts and difficulties of the farmer's boy in a manner always reverent and yet sympathetic, will commend it to the public; and the unlimited interest in religious questions, the unlimited desire for not over-subtle theological discussion, which are inherent in the Anglo-Saxon race, will once more be gratified by 'The Increasing Purpose.' From a literary point of view the book shares the great merit of Mrs. Humphry Ward's works. The atmosphere produced by the observant descriptions of the hemp-farms and the hemp-breakers of Kentucky, survivals from the old time, in the days when after the great and terrible moments of the Civil War a new spirit was astir in the land and new aspirations were making themselves felt in men's hearts, is wholly appropriate to the story, and gives it a sense of unity which goes far to render the book a work of art."

The Westminster Gazette (July 25) says:

"In these days of vulgarity, cheapness, and smartness, of problem plays and society novels, such a book as this is a rare event, and as refreshing as it is rare. For this book, which will be no surprise to the readers of the author's previous novel, 'The Choir Invisible,' is a beautiful one—beautiful alike in thought, tone, and language, leaving in the mind of the reader a succession of delicately painted and utterly truthful pictures of nature and country life in Kentucky during the middle of the nineteenth century, and one character study of extraordinary breadth, power, and interest. . . . To our readers we say, Get this book, read it, and ponder over it."

Mr. Joseph B. Gilder, in *The Critic* (New York, August) differs from *The Westminster Gazette* and some other critics who regard "David" as a fine and original creation. He says:

"The hero is an automaton, with the colossal figure and mental force of a Lincoln and the leonine head of a Beethoven; and he is not made human by an accumulation of details as to how he broke hemp, or stood in the smoke-house 'beside the meat-bench, scraping the saltpeter off a large middling, and rubbing it with red pepper.' Gabriella is a little more real, tho only real by comparison with the abstraction known as David. The book gives a very satisfactory account of the mental processes which turned David, and have turned many another youth, from an orthodox believer into a scientific doubter. It contains, furthermore, some excellent bits of observation and description—rather too many of them, perhaps, and some of them a little over-

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wrought. There are a few—a very few—touches of humor. But the story is long drawn out; the writer is obviously burdened by his in no wise novel message; and the attempt to relate the hero, and to a slighter extent the heroine also, with the past of the race is too formal and persistent to be artistic, tho it is eminently successful in the account of David's trial for heresy. . . . 'The Reign of Law' is a very much wholesomer story than 'The Choir Invisible'; and it will probably not disappoint the large audience the latter work has made for its author, largely because it is pervaded by the same note of sentimentality that resounds throughout that enormously successful romance. For our own part we wish Mr. Allen would rededicate his rare talents to the production of books in his earlier manner—books that one can enjoy and praise without misgiving or qualification—little masterpieces like 'A Kentucky Cardinal.'"

The religious press do not express an overplus of admiration for the book. *The Church Standard* (Prot. Episc., July 21) says:

"Mr. James Lane Allen has done a very silly thing. Having a fine talent for description and a more than ordinarily happy faculty for narration, he chooses to take up a theme which is about as dreary as his own Kentucky hemp-fields at the end of autumn. Beyond all question, the best part of this book is the opening, in which, through many pages, Mr. Allen describes the hemp culture in Kentucky. It is very instructive to people who have no knowledge of hemp; and he invests the scenery of the hemp-fields and the toil of the laborers with a mingled pathos and nobility which make the reader forget the sordidness of the reality. Mr. Allen gives it to be very clearly understood that David's is his own religion and that David's monotonous 'law' is the wooden god of his own dreary idolatry. No doubt Mr. Allen knows; but if there is anything to make him imagine that the propagation of his dry and dreary agnosticism will make men either better or happier, he keeps that secret very closely to himself. The fact is, that Mr. Allen has lost his way. Whatever faculty he has is not that of a philosopher but of a novelist; not that of a prophet but of a story-teller; and in this book, abandoning the line of his own best powers, he enters on the cheap and easy and very hackneyed highways of infidel fiction."

The Catholic News (Rom. Cath., August 18) says:

"Mr. James Lane Allen is a word-painter of much cleverness, but he has no fitness for the task which he undertakes in his latest book. He blunders into a department of knowledge like a bull into a china-shop, with results quite disastrous to order and sense. He discusses the most serious questions of religion in a manner which, despite its blandishment of style, convicts him of culpable ignorance. . . . Mr. Allen presents the spectacle of a man trying to carry water in a sieve. The experiment may amuse his readers, tho it is a serious reflection upon the sanity of the experimentist. Were he to employ the same methods in the treatment of any other science than that of theology, he would be driven out of the schools an Ishmael."

BRITISH COPYRIGHT IN SPEECHES.

THE controversy in England over the question of copyright in speeches, to which we have several times referred (see THE LITERARY DIGEST, November 4, December 23), has at last been settled by the court of highest resort—the House of Lords, the "law lords" sitting as judges. *The Publishers' Weekly* (August 11) gives the following résumé of the dispute:

"The case arose over the verbatim reports of Lord Rosebery, which, in 1896, were first published and copyrighted by the London *Times*, and then, in 1899, reprinted without permission by John Lane, in Lord Rosebery's book 'Appreciations and Addresses.' As Lord Rosebery made no claim to copyright in his speeches, *The Times*, as it had duly registered its reports according to the requirements of the British Copyright Law, promptly brought action against Mr. Lane on the ground that he had infringed its copyright. There was no dispute concerning the facts, the only issue being whether, within the meaning of the statute, reporters of public speeches of other people were authors or not. It was also admitted that the reports, so far as it was possible to determine, reproduced the exact words used by Lord Rosebery without abridgment or elaboration. An injunction was granted in the Chancery Division, but the decision was reversed in the Court of Appeal. Now the House of Lords, four judges against one, has definitely established the reporter's right or that of his employer. Lord Rosebery, it was contended by Augustine Birrell, the counsel for the defense, was the author of his speech. But the Lord Chancellor took the view that the reporter was the author of the report of the speech, and that the statute gives copyright to the first producer of a book, 'whether it be accurate or inaccurate, of literary merit or no merit whatever.' Under this ruling an English stenographer can take down any uncopyrighted utterance and figure in the rôle of author by copyrighting the transcript of his notes."

The New York *Evening Post* (August 22) remarks upon this judgment:

"The decision of the English law lords that a reporter is entitled to copyright in the speeches is said to be good law. To the man in the street it appears a decided encouragement of 'verbatim authorship'; and that reporters regard it as such is indicated by the following letter, printed first in *The Echo*. A good understanding with the author-reporter is the thing—at least so the reporter thinks, as he writes to Mr. Lane:

"'DEAR SIR: Since the reporter has been adjudged the owner of copyright in a speech, may I draw your attention to the fact that there are many speeches made annually by various speakers which would have considerable value as literary productions? As a verbatim author, I beg to offer you the next half-dozen speeches to be made by the Lord Chief Justice, Mr. Balfour, Lord Rosebery, Mr. Birrell, Mr. Asquith, and Mr. John Morley. They could be brought out as a volume of copyright literary essays, and as there appears to be no necessity for stating by whom the speeches were made, I, as the author, would of course stipulate that my name should appear on the title-page.'"

NOTES.

THE announcement that the complete works of Emerson are to find a place in the Minerva Library—one of the popular British editions of standard works—leads *The Academy* to say: "For individual prose works of Emerson there has always been in England a gratifying demand. Of 'The Conduct of Life,' of 'English Traits,' of 'Representative Men,' of 'Society and Solitude,' and so forth, there have been many editions—a fact which reflects credit upon the English reading public."

IT sometimes pays for a learned counsel to be up in matters of literature as well as of the law. The London *Morning Post* relates that in a recent Bow Street case in which a bookseller was being tried for selling an English translation of the celebrated "Heptameron" of the Queen of Navarre, the defendant's counsel suddenly asked the police witness whether he regarded "Tom Jones" as an improper book. The witness had read it, and unhesitatingly answered "I do." "Are you aware," said the Socratic counsel again, "that the novel in question was written by a former chief magistrate of this court?" This reminiscence of the long-forgotten fact that Fielding—who had studied law at the University of Leyden—was once justice of the peace for the county of Middlesex, settled the question of the standing of "Tom Jones" and "The Heptameron," and the jury promptly acquitted the bookseller.

MR. ALFRED AUSTIN has just been put upon the civil list with a pension of £200 ($1,000) a year, and the usual chorus of dispraise has arisen which is heard of late whenever the Poet Laureate is mentioned. *The Westminster Gazette* says: "Critics, however, should remember that Mr. Austin was a Tory leader-writer before he was laureate, and perhaps his reward is rather for his labors in the former capacity than for any eminence attained in the poetic line. Still, of course, it is as laureate that Mr. Austin is known now, and it is interesting to recall that he once issued—in 1870—a book entitled 'The Poetry of the Period,' in which he had something to say of his distinguished predecessor in the same office. One quotation will suffice. He wrote: '"In Memoriam" will assuredly be handed over to the dust as soon as the generation arises which has come to its senses.' Thirty years hence what, one wonders, will be the opinion on Mr. Austin's poetry?"

SINCE the death of Brahms, a struggle has been going on between his relatives and several musical societies with regard to the disposition of his possessions. According to the Vienna *Neue Freie Presse*, a list of the items composing the estate has just been made, and includes a deposit in the Deutschen Reichsbank of 180,000 florins [$87,000], to which is to be added an interest in a firm of music publishers to the value of 6,000 florins [$2,910]. The inventory of valuable objects is very lengthy and includes presents made by various public bodies and private admirers; among which may be mentioned a large laurel wreath in solid silver. It is a remarkable fact that he did not possess a piano of his own. His collection of autographs was a magnificent one, and numbered 182. Among others are a musical autograph of Beethoven, many compositions of Mozart, works of Schubert and Schumann, fragments from "Tristan and Isolde" and twenty letters of Wagner; compositions of Hector Berlioz, Cherubini, Chopin, Donizetti, Hayden, Joachim, Liszt, Rubinstein, Sechter, Spohr, Johann Strauss. Weber (six songs and a letter to Spohr); also a letter from King Ludwig II. to Wagner; letters from Goethe, Schiller and Ibsen; poems by Grillparzer and Rückert; original score of an opera by Turgeneff.

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SCIENCE AND INVENTION.

WEIGHING A LOCOMOTIVE.

THE locomotive gives an impression of great weight without any hint of the systematic way in which it is distributed over the different axles. Says *The Scientific American Supplement* in an article on the subject:

"The judicious distribution of the load over the different wheels is one of the numerous delicate problems that the engineer has to solve, and upon the excellence of the solution depends the equilibrium of the engine in running. The weight to be given the driving-wheels, that is to say, those which are actuated by the steam-engine properly so-called, is a matter of great importance. If the weight is too light it involves sliding through want of adherence, and if it is too heavy it requires on the part of the cylinders an excess of power. In such cases the work is irregular. It will be seen, then, that it is of the highest importance for a railway company not to put a new locomotive in service until after it has assured itself that the distribution of the weight has been effected conformably to the calculations of the engineers who have designed it.

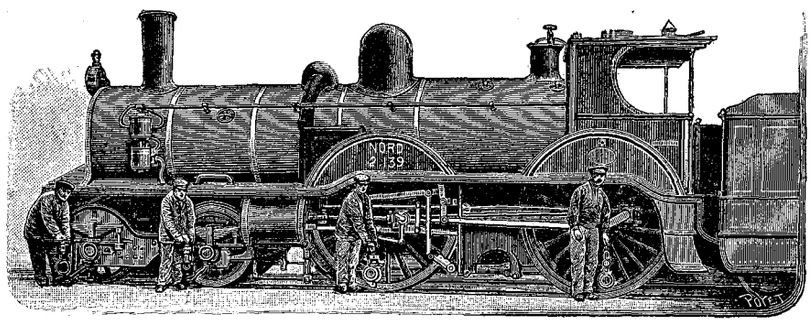

FIG. 1.—WEIGHING A LOCOMOTIVE.

"The great Baldwin works in the United States proceed in the following manner: Scales provided with a special seat are mounted upon a small four-wheeled truck of the same gage as the track upon which the locomotive runs. These scales, thus placed under each pair of wheels, give the load at the point considered, and the regulating of the suspension springs is done in accordance therewith.

"In order to render the loads of its locomotives regular, the Compagnie du Nord (France) employs movable scales of the Erhard system (Fig. 1). These scales consist of a system of double levers, and the small arm of one of these levers carries a seat upon which is places the spring of the wheel to be weighed.

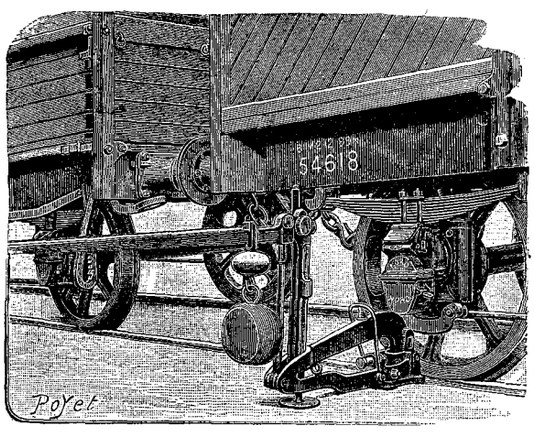

FIG 2.—DETAILS OF THE SCALES.

On the other hand, the equilibrium is obtained by means of a weight that slides over the long arm of a second lever, which is graduated as in ordinary steelyards. The whole is very strong, and yet easily maneuvered. Fig. 2, which gives the details of the scales, will allow the application, which is of great simplicity, to be understood. For the weighing of its engines, the Compagnie de l'Est employs weighing bridges, upon which the axles are placed. The entire system comprises eight bridges, each capable of carrying 17,600 pounds.

"As may be seen, a locomotive is not only a propulsion engine in which all the parts connected with transmission, power, and motion are admirably combined, but also an intelligently proportioned mass."

THE LONGEVITY OF SEEDS.

IN an article on the general subject of the perpetuation of plant-life by seeds, contributed to *Science and Industry* (September), George E. Walsh makes the following observations on the commonly circulated stories of seeds that have retained vitality for thousands of years. He says:

"There are undoubtedly many wild stories current about the wonderful vitality and longevity of certain seeds. It is difficult to believe that the seeds of wheat found in the sarcophagi of Egyptian mummies retain their power to germinate after the lapse of so many centuries, and horticulturists scout the idea as one lacking in proof or demonstration. Seed corn from the ruins of Thebes has likewise been said to germinate after an existence of no telling how many centuries, and some have even gone so far as to assert that seeds from the Nile mud-and-straw bricks of the temples have retained sufficient fertility to germinate. But all official tests with these ancient corn and wheat seeds that have an undoubted antiquity have failed to make a single one germinate. It is more than probable that we must accept these stories of wonderful vitality of certain seeds as untrue until some careful and official test has been made. Travelers returning from the Orient with the seeds of wheat purchased from wandering Arabs or shrewd Eastern hucksters have no higher authority than the word of irresponsible venders that the wheat was taken from some Egyptian mummy some two thousand years old."

But, while rejecting these extraordinary tales, the writer believes firmly that certain seeds have the power of retaining their vitality for remarkable periods, wheat and maize being the most important in this respect. Trustworthy authorities, he says, assert that it is possible for seed maize or wheat to retain their potential life for centuries buried in the ground under the most favorable conditions, and it is probable that nature adopts some such method to preserve certain types of plants. Certain plants that have totally disappeared from the face of the earth, or at least from large continents, have reappeared after a lapse of ages, and this has been explained by supposing that some of the seeds remained buried in the earth, where they remained dormant until exposed to the light and heat of the sun. If this theory be true, says Mr. Walsh, we know not what new species of plants we might be the means of reviving by turning over the deep soil of some swamp or rich piece of upland. To quote again:

"It has been demonstrated by actual experiments that many of our wild forest plants produce seeds that, when buried in the subsoil, can retain their vitality for ten, twenty, and thirty years. This is evidenced by the fact that by taking off successive layers of earth from an old swamp or field, new plants will spring up from seeds that must have long been dormant in the earth. Corn and wheat that have been accidentally lost under old buildings, where they were covered with soil, but unable to get a ray of light, have sprung into growth when the buildings were removed.

"Some of the state experiment-station experts are now making exhaustive tests to ascertain the exact nature of the longevity of seeds. Large quantities of seeds of many of our wild and cultivated plants are selected and put away in suitable places where

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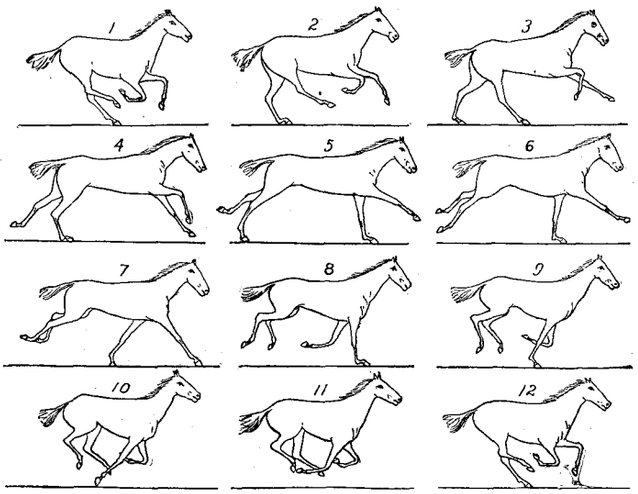
their vitality will be the most apt to be conserved. Every year a small proportion of each variety of these seeds is tested for their germinating powers. In this way, the average longevity of each species will be demonstrated beyond a doubt. Naturally, it will take many years to make this series of tests of much value, for it is well known that there is great longevity among many seeds, and all that the scientific test can ascertain is the relative or absolute longevity of those used in the experiment.

"The difference in the length of life between individual seeds is almost as great as that between species. Individuals of the same species vary in the length of their life in the proportion of 1 to 16, and in the species from 1 to 20. This latter variation is partly guesswork, in view of the scanty knowledge on the subject, and it may be discovered that the period of variation is far greater among the species than we have any reasonable belief to-day. But scientific conclusions can be drawn only from ascertained and demonstrated facts, and, until we know more about the longevity and vitality of the seeds, positive assertions regarding their wonderful powers of retaining their fertility for generations must be received with some caution."

THE ATTITUDES OF MOVING ANIMALS.

IT is now nearly a quarter of a century since Muybridge first showed, by instantaneous photography, that the attitudes of animals in motion are quite different from those that are common in pictures. Of course the evidence of the camera can not be gainsaid and its conclusions were accepted at once, but nevertheless there have continued to be two opinions regarding the proper representation of animal motion in pictures. Some artists have held that the attitudes shown by the camera should be adopted at once; if they look unnatural, so much the worse for the eye. It is time, say they, that we should be educated to see things as they really are. Others, however, point out that the attitudes revealed by photography are instantaneous phases of motion. The eye does not see any one of these, but a combination of them, and the pictorial representation should aim at the same effect. With how much earnestness both these views are still advocated, and how much is to be said on both sides, may be seen from a discussion of the subject that appears in *Popular Science* (September). One correspondent, N. W. Phillips, has the following to say:



TWELVE POSITIONS IN ONE GALLOP STRIDE.

"The instantaneous photographs, from which the artist obtains the action, give the 'natural' motion. That this action seems very unusual is certain, and unavailable for art it may be, but unnatural it is not. There exists such a thing as a false perception of facts, through the influence of an acknowledged authority, and the worm-fence lightning, and flying horse of the old-time painters and draughtsmen, are instances in point. Many people really thought that they saw the lightning zigzagging through the sky, because they had seen it represented that way so often.

"It must be remembered that one of the greatest labors of an artist is to rid his mind of the sophistications of years, and to see things with the eyes of an infant—that is to say, precisely as they are, with nothing added or subtracted by reason. How difficult a matter this is, is only appreciated by those who are obliged to perform the task.

"Now, as to how far the artist should press his superior plain-sightedness is a question that miles of print could not right. For instance, one of the criticized artists might say with reason that he had spent much time and patient labor on his art, and that the spectators should wait until they were used to it, when it would no longer seem unnatural; and the spectators can retort also with reason, that they wish to be edified by the painting, and they do not care to spend the rest of their lives getting educated up to it. 'Painting,' say they, 'is only an amusement to us anyhow, and this horse with his legs all bent out of shape doesn't amuse us.'

"Instantaneous photographs of a horse's action are not unnatural. They are nature itself—*ergo*, so are the drawings made from them."

On the other hand, another correspondent, signing himself "H. W. B.," says:

"The pictures . . . representing the different kinds of horse movement, originated with Eadweard Muybridge, of San Francisco, in 1878. He perfected an automatic electrophotographic instrument that gave each successive exposure about the two-thousandth part of a second. Here is the picture of twelve different positions of a horse while making one complete stride in a fast gallop, as given by him in the Standard Dictionary (copyright).

"Of course it is accurate, and in the scientific sense it is natural. But, in the esthetic sense it is ludicrously unnatural. Fine art should give things as they appear, as they impress us. The old-fashioned pictures represent the gallop as true to us, tho not true to the instantaneous camera. And yet we have painters who know no better than to give galloping horses the laughable positions seen in instantaneous photographs. No man ever saw them. Fine art is not for the revelations of science. One might as well introduce into a picture the 'willow-leaf' solar flames revealed only by the telescope."

DEATH OF PROF. JAMES E. KEELER.

PROF. JAMES EDWARD KEELER, director of the Lick Observatory, died at Mount Hamilton, Cal., on August 12. From a brief obituary in *The Scientific American* we learn that Professor Keeler was born in La Salle, Ill., forty-three years ago, and early manifested an inclination toward astronomy. After graduating from Johns Hopkins University, he at once entered upon practical work in that science, and in 1878 he participated in the Colorado expedition for observing the total eclipse, afterward serving as a colleague of Professor Langley in the famous expedition to Mount Whitney in California. Later he studied with Quincke, at Heidelberg, and Helmholtz, of Berlin, and on his return attached himself to the Allegheny observatory as assistant. When Professor Langley retired from Allegheny, Professor Keeler took his place as chief astronomer. Says the writer of the notice:

"Under his direction that observatory gained its highest position among astronomers in the field of original discovery, Professor Keeler devoting his special talent to the advancement of stellar spectroscopy, and achieving great fame for his discoveries in this abstruse and difficult branch. In 1898 he was chosen chief director of the Lick Observatory, and under his capable management the powers of its great instrument were devoted to the highest uses.

"Professor Keeler, while an enthusiast in his favorite science, was at the same time extremely conservative. The ambition to shine in popular estimation was entirely lacking; consequently, the work which he accomplished can be truly estimated only by

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the great ones in astronomy who work less for sensational applause than for established results.

"Professor Keeler's researches on the sun were profound and successful, and his lectures, given from time to time before the academical societies of the West upon this subject, were remarkable for their lucidity and brilliant conclusions.

"Professor Keeler's chief claims to distinction were based upon a work—not yet complete—of studies of nebulæ, from which much was hoped for."

DOES THE TELEGRAPH MAKE AMBASSADORS SUPERFLUOUS?

THIS question has frequently, of late years, been put more or less timidly by the daily press. It is now boldly asked in its editorial page by *The Electrical World and Engineer* (August 18) and answered affirmatively. Electricity, says this paper, has made diplomacy obsolete, and ambassadors are hardly more than district messenger boys. As the cable saved the lives of the Peking envoys and their suites, why not let it hereafter relieve them of all their work? Says the journal referred to above:

"There is little doubt that under modern conditions ambassadors are often more an embarrassment than a convenience to the countries they represent. Now that a cable message can convey to a minister the latest wishes of his home government, he ceases to be a personality and becomes more and more a mouthpiece. The helplessness and inutility of the minister when cut off from his cable is but too well seen in the terrible situation now existing in China. When our minister is at last withdrawn from Peking, we shall be just as well able to carry on negotiations with the 'effete monarchy' there—perhaps all the better for getting him and his women folk out of the way. At this minute all our negotiations with China are carried on by means of the cable almost as they were with Spain when the last great emergencies of war and peace came. Prince Bismarck put it neatly when he objected to the submarine cable, because on account of it diplomacy could no longer be unctuous.

"There are no great ambassadors nowadays. The cable is swiftly killing off the breed. It is simply impossible to conceive of John Jay in England or Gouverneur Morris in France doing their work, as they did it, subject to the modern condition of receiving the last imperative instructions of a President and cabinet in session only five minutes before. That work was individual, personal, distinctive to a degree utterly unknown today, and for John Hay now to do what John Jay did at the same court, a hundred years apart, has been out of the question, not from any difference in the quality of the men, but because the existence of the cable deprives the strongest ambassador of initiative and of responsibility alike.

"This is not a state of affairs to be deplored. It is a pity to lose such fine figures as Lord Stratford de Redcliffe or Benjamin Franklin from the record of foreign intercourse and international history, but it is altogether better that diplomacy should be direct and immediate rather than unctuous and dilatory. But for the cable, every white man in China would have been killed a month ago. Thanks to the cable, the work of rescue is going on, and all the great questions at stake are being settled by cable over the heads or under the feet of the ambassadors, as tho they did not exist, except as mere prisoners to be set free. The only present use of the Chinese minister in Washington is that of a district messenger carrying cable messages to the White House."

Number of Ants in an Ant-Hill.—M. Forel, a Swiss naturalist, and Sir John Lubbock estimate the number of ants in a big ant-hill at 400,000 to 500,000. M. Emile Yung, of Geneva, from investigations which he has conducted, not indeed with the ants of our fields, but among the semi-wild, considers these figures highly exaggerated. The Paris *L'Illustration* tells of his investigations as follows:

"This is how M. Yung set about the difficult task of census-taking among the ants. In order to kill as many as possible in the shortest space of time, he employed carbonate of sulfur, which has great disseminating properties. He scattered it by means of a tube of glass which he placed in the axis of the nests, which were about three feet in diameter at the base and about two feet in height.

"After about half an hour the work of the sulfur was done, and there was not an ant left alive.

"The nest, together with the adjacent soil, was then put into sacks, and the counting of ants was undertaken. The material weighed 170 pounds, and the counting of ants occupied a week.

"Five nests were thus treated, and the results were: 53,018; 67,470; 19,333; 93,694, and 17,828 ants respectively.

"M. Yung admits that in each case it is necessary to add 10,000, so as to allow for those which escaped or which were not in the nest when the sulfur was applied. But even then the most thickly populated of the ant-hills did not contain over 100,000, and most of them many less."

It would be still more interesting if we could get the view of the ants in regard to this wholesale slaughter for the purpose of gratifying human curiosity.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

INSULATION BY COLD.

THE discoveries and inventions of Nikola Tesla have of late been noticeable more for their ingenuity than for their practicality. Whether the latest belongs to this category or not, it is not our place to determine. It is a method for the insulation of electric conductors by immersing them in some medium that insulates when frozen, and by then keeping this below the freezing-point. Mr. Tesla thus describes his invention in a newspaper interview:

"Imagine a great trough extending, if you wish, across the continent. It must contain a quantity of water or some other substance which will freeze. From my experiments I judge that sawdust and water will prove most effective. For the purpose of transmitting the current long distances I shall use a thin metal tube capable of resisting three hundred pounds pressure to the square inch. This tube will be submerged in the substance which I intend to freeze.

"In the whole discovery the most interesting feature is the method I have devised for freezing the material in the trough. Five or six feet below the surface the ground itself is very cold. Here the trough would be buried. Through the tube there will then be forced a current of gas—probably hydrogen—reduced to a temperature of minus 200 degrees or thereabouts.

"This, under ordinary circumstances, will be sufficient to freeze the material surrounding the tube in the trough, and also to neutralize the heat which would be generated by the electricity."

Referring to the advantages that might be derived from this new system of insulation the inventor said:

"It has been known since the days of Faraday that an electrical current can not break through an insulation of ice. My success lies in discovering how practically to apply this truth. To show of what gigantic worth it may be needs but a moment. Grant that the invention has, as I believe, given to the world an almost perfect insulator, immediately there follow results which will directly or indirectly affect every manufacturing industry which in any way uses electricity.

"This will follow from the fact that no electricity will be lost in transmission. The cost of the new insulation will in the end be cheaper than that now used, and so it follows that the electricity which is to be utilized in a thousand different ways can be produced at a less cost. To telephone and telegraph companies, therefore, you see that my invention will be indispensable.

"Water-power converted into electricity can by the new method of insulation be carried thousands of miles. At present the loss of electricity due to unsatisfactory insulation makes this impossible. I have been considering the possibility of carrying the power of Niagara to this city, and find that it can be done with a loss of not more than one-half per cent. to one per cent.

"For the first time in history a power will be used for insula-

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tion instead of a property. Deaths from contact with exposed wires will be prevented by the new method. The increase in the speed of exchange of telephone and telegraph messages will be pronounced after the adoption of my discovery.

"These are the important changes in the electrical world which will be wrought by this invention. There will be also innumerable indirect results."

Commenting upon all this *Electricity* (August 22) says editorially:

"This system of insulation, as will readily be seen, would entail the digging of trenches and laying of tubing, to say nothing of forcing a current of gas through the whole system, which, over a long distance, would entail an enormous initial expenditure of money. This would seem to be the principal objection to the system and one which would prohibit its adoption in carrying power to localities situated a hundred or more miles distant, where fuel could be obtained at reasonable prices. That such a system, if found practicable, would have its field of usefulness there is not the slightest doubt, but that field would be limited or not sufficiently extensive to warrant insulation manufacturers looking about for some other means of earning an honest living."

Water Purification by Ozone.—There is periodic mention of ozone as a marvelously effective agent for purifying and sterilizing drinking-water; but practical results have not followed, the apparatus for producing this condensed form of oxygen being impracticable and expensive. As is noted by Dr. Foveau de Courmelles in the *Revue Encyclopédique*, those who advocate this use of ozone have usually assumed that cheap energy like that of a waterfall is available. Even if we suppose the ozone made and ready for use, says Dr. Courmelles, it is "very slightly soluble in water, and hence difficult to put in contact with all the molecules that are to be sterilized. But if only a fraction of a water-drop remains charged with bacteria, this will pollute all the rest again." The latest device for the use of ozone divides the water to be operated upon into very fine spray, on the principle of the Gifford injector. The inventor assures us that by his method all pathogenic bacteria are destroyed, but Dr. Courmelles has some doubt of this. It is much to be desired that some perfectly satisfactory method of using ozone should be brought forward, for it is an ideal antiseptic owing to its chemical instability. It decomposes quickly and therefore does not remain in the water. Recently Messrs. Siemens and Halske have been treating the water of the Spree, at Berlin, with currents of ozonized air and have sterilized 4 cubic meters (about 1,000 gallons) an hour. In case of foul water this costs only about five or six cents for the ozone. The writer predicts that ozone will become cheaper in the future and easier to produce, and asserts his belief that its satisfactory use in the purification of water is only a question of time."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Electric Fans Abroad.—It is reported by Mr. Halstead, United States consul at Birmingham, England, that the recent hot weather in London has created a demand for fan motors. He says that he has never seen an electric fan in England, and wonders why our manufacturers in this line neglect their opportunity. "The remark," says *The Electrical World and Engineer*, "is a little hard on the aforesaid manufacturers. They are not neglecting their opportunity—at least, some are not—and many of their fans are to be found in England, altho so rarely that Mr. Halstead may not have seen them. There is an old saying about inability to make a horse drink if he does not elect to drink, and while one may stand ready to sell electric fans to the Britishers, you can not well force them on so sturdy a Chinaman as John Bull is.

"The general attitude toward a 'draft,' in Europe, is well exemplified by a recent report from Switzerland. One of the factory inspectors there relates an anecdote about the attitude of the operatives in a certain factory in regard to an improved ventilating apparatus. They objected to it strenuously because it would breed rheumatism. Two years later the same laborers have refused to go into another building because it lacked that same ventilating apparatus.

"Conditions are parallel in regard to the ventilating fan motor in England, France, etc. Once the prejudice is overcome, things are easier, but it is the first fan that costs. Not long ago, some American electrical manufacturers in France were threatened with a serious strike because in building a new factory they put in sash-weight windows, on account of their better light and ventilation and other qualities. The employees all swore they would not work in a factory where they were subjected to the perils of 'fenêtres à la guillotine' (guillotine windows) every time they popped their heads out to see what was going on in the street. The guillotine windows are in, and are quite popular, but the incident, like that in Switzerland, shows that while you may also have fan motors ready, every man who needs them does not become at once an enthusiastic purchaser. He would rather oft-times perish in his perspiration."

Recent Investigations of Heredity.—In a paper that has an interest bearing on theories of heredity, Prof. Karl Pearson discusses in a recent volume of "The Proceedings of the Royal Society" the subject of the inheritance of characters which seem not to be controlled by selection, and may be taken as due to some law of inheritance as yet but imperfectly known. Says *The British Medical Journal* (August 4), in a notice of the article:

"He has investigated by mathematical analysis, so far as the nature of the subject allows, the inheritance of color in horses, and of eye color in man, and finds that in both the results do not conform with what would be expected from a blending of the characters of the ancestors in a direct line—are not in fact what would be expected under Weismann's theory of the continuity of the germ plasm and its subdivision. On the contrary, the offspring tends to take the character of the one parent to the exclusion of the other, and more frequently follows the male than the female ancestors; in other words a prepotency of the male germinal material is often manifested. The persistence of family likeness handed down for several generations on the male side, in spite of the introduction of various strains upon the female side, seems to bear out these conclusions, which have an obvious and interesting bearing upon the inheritance of disease. It is the opinion of Dr. Savage that where a strong taint of insanity exists, no progressive dilution of the taint by intermarriage can be traced in successive generations, but that the individual either escapes altogether or experiences the full weight of the neurosis in some form or other. But it is rarely, if ever, possible to obtain the records of eight generations, as Professor Pearson has done with color, as such families die out long before these have been attained."

SCIENCE BREVITIES.

DURING tho present summer, Prof. Francis E. Nipher, of Washington University, St. Louis, has been working on the methods of developing positive photographs in the light, which have already been noticed in these columns. As reported in *The Iowa City Republican*, August 24, Professor Nipher finds that as the camera exposure is made shorter, the developing bath must be more strongly illuminated. He is now developing clear pictures, with no trace of fog when the bath is placed in the direct sunlight, but covered by transparent color screens. Good results have been obtained with ruby and with pure yellow screens. The screens are made by fixing an unused photographic plate, and after drying the gelatin film, the plate is put in a water solution of red or yellow anilin."

MAKING PORK OUT OF SNAKES.—"Snakes as food for hogs beat chestnuts, acorns, or any of the foodstuffs," says a correspondent of the Washington *Post*. "Of course you know that in some parts of Europe pigs have killed out the vipers. I was in West Virginia some months ago and found that a novel industry had been undertaken by a number of men whose lands were overrun by the small variety of snake that infests that section. The snakes were so numerous as to be a nuisance. One farmer tried the hog as an exterminator. He succeeded so well that he found the drove of animals he had turned loose on the plantation had not only decreased the number of snakes, but that they were actually thriving on them. He told his neighbors about it, and now the whole valley is one large hogpen in which hundred of the animals are feeding literally on snakes. Formerly no one would buy land there, notwithstanding the beauty of the place, because of the snakes; but now that the remedy has been found and at the same time big money is made on the pigs that grow fat on snake food the land is destined to be in great demand, as it is the most fertile land in West Virginia. This may sound like a fairy snake tale, but I assure you that it is correct, and that hundreds of pigs are sold from the valley every year that have literally become fat on snakes."

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THE RELIGIOUS WORLD.

THE ZIONIST CONGRESS.

FROM several points of view besides its religious element, the Zionist Congress which met in London last month has claims upon public interest. The movement, inaugurated three or four years ago by Dr. Theodor Herzl, has among its leaders such well-known men as Dr. Max Nordau, Mr. Israel Zangwill, Sir Francis Montefiore, Dr. Moses Gaster, chief rabbi of the Spanish and Portuguese congregations of Great Britain, Herr Wolfsohn, chairman of the Jewish Colonial Trust, Professor Mandelstamm, of the University of Kieff, Dr. Alexander Marmorek, of the Pasteur Institute, and Prof. Richard Gottheil, of Columbia University. The opening address, delivered by the president, Dr. Herzl, dealt with the tolerance shown toward the Jews in Great Britain, where there is perhaps less prejudice against the race than in any country in the world. Dr. Nordau, on the other hand, drew attention to the many disabilities of Jews upon the Continent. The anti-Semitic movement, in his opinion, is steadily growing, and he referred to the numerous accusations of ritual murder lately made against the Jews in Austria, Germany, and Italy. The recent Rumanian outrages, of course, constitute another argument for the Zionist ideal of an asylum for the race in Palestine.

DR. THEODOR HERZL.

Mr. Zangwill's speech attracted much attention and applause. Altho not a Zionist, he was present to welcome the delegates to the Congress. He took a share, he remarked, in the first meeting of the kind in England. At that time, four or five years ago, Dr. Herzl addressed only about thirty persons. "Since then the Congress gatherings," he said, "had shown that a race accused of money-grabbing could rise to an heroic measure. They had been told that the Jewish problem which the Congress strove to solve was to help the poor, but it was as much a problem of giving an ideal to the rich; and in Jewry the rich needed an ideal even more than the poor needed bread. In dreaming of a model state, they dreamt of liberty and justice, which they hoped would be established, and not a system of sweating. Then there was the problem of orthodoxy and reform to solve. Jews could not continue on the old lines. Once they became emancipated they could not keep the Sabbath living amidst a Christian environment. In order that the old Jewish religion might continue, Jews must be gathered in a large mass, having their own laws. They were told that it would be impossible to transport Jews to Palestine. Let gold be discovered there in six months, and they could get a large population in Palestine, sufficient, at least, to force a franchise from the Turks."

The Congress naturally attracted much attention from the English press. *The Westminster Gazette* (August 14) says:

"There is a curious mixture of the sternly practical and dreamily visionary about the proceedings of the Zionist Congress. . . . We notice it in the fine opening speech by Dr. Herzl, the president, who combines a practical survey of the position of Jews in England, 'the only place on earth where there is freedom from hatred of the Jews,' with an exquisite little prose poem concerning 'the land of their forefathers, provided for them by Holy Writ, sung by their poets, and longed for by the tears of their nation.' It appears in Dr. Max Nordau's impassioned address concerning the growth of anti-Semitism, and this morning we find it embodied in the interesting organ of the Congress, which, printed in Russian under the somewhat formidable title of *Eshednevnik*, or *Daily News*, opens with a poetic 'Call' to the Congress, gives excellent portraits of some of the leaders of the movement, contains reports of the proceedings, and will be published for one week only. It is the first Russian daily newssheet published in England, and does the greatest credit to its promoters. But energetic action and eloquent enthusiasm notwithstanding, it is difficult for the non-Zionist to see how the object of leading the Jewish race back to dwell in the promised land can be accomplished, since the ruler of the purple East seems to be determined to act, with regard to Palestine, on the principle of *j'y suis, j'y reste* [Here I am, here I remain]."

The Spectator (August 18) does not find in the gatherings any evidence of progress toward success, nor of that spirit which would lead to a new exodus to Palestine:

"The main arguments of the speakers are the horrible position of the Jews in countries where, as in Rumania, they are actively persecuted, and the benefit they may be to Europe as the vanguard of an army of intelligence for penetrating Asia. Both are sound arguments, but some hotter impulse than either would seem to be required before the majority of Jews will quit countries to which they are accustomed for a country which has for ages been represented to them as desolate beyond experience. The English Jews in particular are too comfortable to move, the Jews in professions on the Continent fear to be declared foreigners, and the poor majority have no means of influencing the Turkish Government, which is not favorable to the movement. Some day or other, when the Seraglio is in acute want of money, a great experiment will be tried, but meanwhile Zionism is rather the highly interesting aspiration of a great race than a practical design for the restoration of the Jews to their own land. As to the Jews being able to live on the land in Palestine, there can, however, be no doubt. Those who have seen a Jewish colony in Syria will testify to the excellent physical and moral and agricultural results achieved. Merely to see the children in a Jewish colony in Palestine is ample warrant of what is done for the Jew by release from the Ghetto."

The Weekly Register (liberal Roman Catholic, August 20) says:

"A return to Palestine is purely a romantic solution of Jewish misfortunes, which can be remedied only by the fuller exercise by Christian governments of those very counsels of perfection they are so ready to inculcate upon others. The difficulties which beset the carrying out of the Zionist program have not been fully realized by its supporters, who are, perhaps, too prone to trust to their inbred intelligence and business aptitude to carry their sentiment into practical execution. Moreover, Mr. Arnold White favors Armenia in preference to Zion, and the conflict between Jew and Armenian, who with the Greek shares the credit of being able to outwit Isaac, might give a respite to some of those Christians who now groan under a certain class of money-lenders. For the present, at all events, the Zionist propaganda is unlikely to come within the sphere of practical politics."

The Jewish press, like the Jewish people, is divided in opinion. It is commonly accepted that the Spanish, Portuguese, French, and Russian Jews are to a somewhat large extent in favor of Zionism. The same assertion has lately been made about the German Jews, but this does not appear to be borne out by the facts. Among the English and American Jewish press it is difficult to find much favorable comment on the Congress, altho in both countries the movement is undoubtedly favored by a certain group who are thoroughly in earnest. *The Jewish Chronicle* (London, August 17) calls Zionism "a counsel of despair," and says:

"Nothing that was advanced at the Congress has caused us to

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alter the view we have frequently expressed that political Zionism rests upon fallacies. The scheme of obtaining from the Sultan of Turkey a legally secured home in Palestine strikes us as being as impracticable as ever. Speaking at the mass-meeting held in London in October, 1898, Dr. Herzl led his followers to believe that the return was to commence almost immediately. . . . In view of this pronouncement two years ago, the remark in the report of the Actions Committee presented by Herr Oscar Marmorek, that 'the leaders were anxious not to make premature statements of what they hope to obtain,' is significant. Since the 1898 speech we have had mysterious allusions to negotiations with the Sultan and the Kaiser, but Dr. Herzl's references in the mean while have grown less rather than more explicit. The idea with which he started seems to be receding into the background, it was almost hidden from view in Monday's speech. But even if it were going to be realized to-morrow, we should still have to designate it as fallacious and even mischievous. We have said again and again, and we repeat it, that the Jewish question of each country must be solved in that country itself. . . . The world is surely moving forward, not backward. Here and there one is confronted with unfortunate reactions of persecution, but the general trend of things is in the direction of more freedom and toleration. How dark the prospect for Jews in France appeared a year ago, and how suddenly the clouds lifted! If one had counseled the French Jews to leave their fatherland, at a time when the Dreyfus affair seemed to be at its worst, the advice would have proved unsound. Looking at the question from another point of view, it would seem that the religious mission of the Jewish race can best be carried out by their dispersion in many lands. Those, therefore, are the best friends of persecuted Jews who dissuade them from having recourse to cowardly flight, and encourage them to hope and labor for the better times that are surely in store for them."

DISCOVERY OF THE OLDEST KNOWN LETTERS IN THE WORLD.

IN the course of several recent expeditions to the East, Dr. Ernest A. Wallis Budge, keeper of Egyptian and Assyrian antiquities in the British Museum, was the discoverer of a most valuable collection of small tablets of the envelope or duplicate class, found in the ruins at Tellsefr in South Babylonia, representing the ancient ity of Larsa (the "Ellasar" of Genesis, chapter xiv). These tablets consisted partly of contracts and other legal documents, partly of public and private letters. The latter have just been carefully arranged, and for the first time their full importance is evident. *Biblia* (August) pronounces them "the most important series of inscriptions which has ever been rescued from Oriental ruins." The writer says of this collection:

"It is a group of fifty letters, written by Khammurabi, King of Babylon, who reigned about 2300 B.C., and who is generally identified with the Amraphel of Genesis xiv. We have already been made acquainted with the existence of a system of letter-writing in use among the kings of the East at an early period, as illustrated by the famous Tel-el-Amarna tablets. These, we know, present the diplomatic and private correspondence between the kings of Syria, Mitanni, or northern Mesopotamia, and Babylon, and may be dated about 1450 B.C. The valuable series of tablets which has recently been received for the British Museum belong to a period of 1,000 years earlier, and are certainly the oldest known letters in the world. The position of those Babylonian letters in Oriental literature is of extreme importance. They reveal the existence of a regular system of correspondence between rulers and their subordinates, and that writing was used not only to record events in royal annals, but for ordinary purposes. They are, besides, manifestly the models for all after-time, as in the case of the diplomatic correspondence in the Tel-el-Amarna tablets. We can now see how overshadowing was the influence of Babylonia over all western Asia. During the thousand years which elapsed between the time of Khammurabi and the date of these later letters discovered some years ago, Babylonia became the educational center of the Oriental world.

"The great library at Borsippa was the school and university not only of Chaldea, but of Syria, North Mesopotamia, and Asia Minor. Fragments of the deluge and creation tablets dated from a period more than 1,000 years before Moses have been discovered in Babylonia. It is therefore clear that if the scribes of Canaan were taught to write and use the cuneiform script through these influences there must have been some among them who were acquainted with the traditions stored in the Chaldean libraries. The present find is indeed a good one; but one can only regard it as a prelude to still more important discoveries which probably will put a new aspect on the vexed question of Hebrew origin. To possess letters contemporary with the time of Abraham is certainly an astonishing result of Oriental exploration, and one which far exceeds the wildest dreams of those who first revealed to us the buried cities of Assyria and Babylonia.

"Messrs. Luzac & Co., of London, have recently published the 'Letters and Inscriptions of Hammurabi, King of Babylon about 2300 B.C.,' to which are added a series of letters of other kings of the first dynasty of Babylon. The original Babylonian text is given with an English translation."

PROTESTANT OPPOSITION TO OBER-AMMERGAU.

THERE has always been some antagonism to the Passion Play at Ober-Ammergau among the Protestants of Germany; but the methods and manner in which, it is claimed, the whole affair has been conducted during the present session have aroused sharp opposition on the part of a number of educated men who are accustomed to judge objectively. These views, it may be remarked, are noticeably different from those expressed by many American critics this year.

The *Christliche Welt*, of Leipsic, the organ of a liberal interpretation of Christian dogma and life, in a recent issue (No. 31) contained two criticisms of the play and its present management. One, by the theologian Ebne, says among other things:

"However deep may have been the religious and spiritual interests that may have influenced both participants and hearers in the Passion Play in former decades, that period is passed and the spirit of commercialism and the mere desire for a new kind of an entertainment have taken its place. The multitudes that swarm to Ober-Ammergau now show that the old ideas and ideals have been lost. The play has degenerated into a theatrical exhibition, which tends to make the most sacred things in history the means for nervous excitement and for a gratification of a low type of desire for pleasure. It is not a desire for edification nor the gratification of religious needs and longings that take the multitudes to the play. In the actions of those in attendance nothing can be seen that indicates reverence for the great things that the play proposes to reproduce. Even admitting what is still a matter of uncertainty, that the person and the sufferings of Christ are a fit subject for theatrical display, it is certain that the Ober-Ammergau play has practically ceased to be an undertaking in the interests of religious and spiritual life. And the participants, notably he who plays the rôle of Christ, are made the object of hysterical adulation by silly women and crazy Americans, after the manner in which the heroes of the stage are adored by their worshipers. The time has come when this kind of an exhibition of sacred things should cease."

Of the commercialism that is charged against the village, the Munich *Allgemeine Zeitung*, perhaps the most influential publication of its kind, reports, as a sample of other cases, that the ticket-window, where the tickets for the cheapest seats are sold, is closed with the placard "All seats sold," until all the more expensive places are disposed of, and only after this class of seats are taken is the box opened for the cheaper seats. A correspondent in the *Gegenwart* makes similar charges of commercialism, to the effect that beds and rooms which have been sold by the village to tourists in advance are sold to higher bidders when opportunity offers, the peasants excusing themselves on the ground that they must make hay while the sun shines.

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In another article in the *Christliche Welt*, Professor Waitz reports his own impressions:

"The Passion Play as given now is an inner untruth. The audience has no conception or feeling for the things that are being represented. Jews and unbelievers, Catholics and Protestants, are all commingled in the audience, all seemingly having no higher motive than that of being amused. The play itself is an untruth as given, some features of it even causing smiles and laughter. The play is an anachronism and its days are passed."

Sentiments of this kind appear in many journals of Germany, while quite a number of the religious journals ignore the whole affair. In this way the *Allgemeine Kirchenzeitung* has not even mentioned Ober-Ammergau during this whole season, and in this it has been followed by many other Protestant papers.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC REACTION IN AUSTRIA.

THE religious pendulum has apparently swung once more in Austria, and the "Away from Rome" agitation has caused a pronounced reaction in the direction of the Roman Catholic Church. It is claimed that not Protestantism, but Roman Catholicism has in reality been the greater gainer by this remarkable religious excitement. The church authorities, it is reported, have put forth special efforts to counteract the Protestant propaganda, and in many respects seem to have been successful. We are indebted to the *Reichspost*, the leading organ of the Roman Catholics of Austria, for the following particulars:

Already early in the movement a number of Roman Catholic prelates and scholars did considerable to undo the work of the "Away from Rome" crusade by lectures, sermons, and the like. The bulk of the discourses consisted in sharp criticisms of Luther and the Protestant Church, and in the claims of superiority for the Church of Rome. Meetings of various kinds were called for this purpose, and at one of these the court chaplain Binder, of Vienna, declared that the prophecy Is. xxviii. 16 referred directly to the papacy. At the same convention Prince Clary appealed for recruits for pilgrimages to Rome.

A further step was taken by the authorities when it was determined to impress more than before the doctrines of the church on the minds and hearts of the youth of the schools, and in fact bring the whole school system under the control of the church. This has been to a notable degree accomplished by the compulsory introduction of religious drill and exercise in officially interconfessional schools. Those of the teachers who, on the basis of the school law of 1869, determined to adhere to non-denominational or non-religious instruction in the schools, were made the objects of decided attacks and in many cases have yielded, because the state is at heart opposed to the Protestant cause. Special efforts have been made to gain these teachers for the national Catholic association, called the Christian Social Society, which is spread all over the empire and is a source of power to the Roman Catholic Church and works largely through the political powers. So strong is this association that at the recent city elections held in Vienna the Christian Social party outvoted all the anti-churchly parties combined and elected their men to office.

The advanced adherents of the Protestant agitation have themselves in many cases given the Roman Catholic Party ammunition in abundance. In Innsbruck, a student of a scientific school emptied his revolver several times at the Host, and this has been claimed as one of the legitimate fruits of the agitation, altho the deed has been disavowed by the Protestants and the young man has been expelled.

A very valuable help for the Roman Catholic Church has been found in the cooperation of the women, who have been using their influence to bring the tens of thousands of men who in Austria have been practically estranged from the church to a renewed consciousness of their religious connection. The noted prelate Abel has been especially active in this department, and has organized this woman's auxiliary crusade on an extensive and successful scale.

Non-political Roman Catholic societies have also been called into active service by the church leaders, and their political influence is being used in favor of their church. In addition a society of the Roman Catholic press has been organized, with headquarters at Linden, which is laboring systematically to influence the public mind in favor of the mother church. A large number of new Roman Catholic papers have been started as a result of the movement, especially in those sections where Protestant agitation has had the greatest harvests. Of some of the brochures published in the interests of the cause, fully 50,000 copies have been sold. The most popular has been the one entitled "What the Germans Owe to the Papacy." The subjects further are: "Pope and Church," "The Celibacy of the Catholic Clergy," etc. It is fair to say that in recent months alone fully 1,000,000 pamphlets have been circulated in Austria to counteract the Away from Rome propaganda.

The *Reichspost* gives the following as its summary of the gains made by its church through the new religious crusade:

"It has shaken hundreds of thousands of Catholics out of their lethargy, while the 'Away from Rome' agitators can report only 'ten thousand' apostates to their cause. The whole movement is beginning to awaken a wide and deep excitement in favor of the church throughout Catholic Austria. In many places where it has hitherto been impossible to secure the funds for the Catholic Church, money has been given in abundance. Missions have been started where none before existed. Thousands of men now come to the Communion who had not attended for years. In short, the Catholic Church of Austria is being shaken from center to circumference, and will only gain by the agitation."

In the mean while the Protestants claim to be gaining recruits day by day. They are still active, and only recently the Protestant faculty of the University of Vienna sent out a public appeal for students who are willing to enter the Protestant ministry of Austria.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

FUTURE OF THE RELIGIOUS WEEKLY.

IT has frequently been said of late that the fate of the religious weekly is sealed. Two of our ablest and most widely circulated religious journals (*The Outlook* and *The Independent*) have recently abandoned their distinctively religious features; other weaker journals have been benevolently assimilated; while by a resolution of the Methodist General Conference last spring, the strongest of American Protestant denominations suspended four of their journals upon the ground that they were not self-supporting. Various reasons have been given for this apparent weakening. The conservative Christian finds in it a proof of the encroachments of the secular spirit, which manifests itself even in the services of the church itself. The freethinker believes that it is only one of many signs that the modern man is becoming thoroughly tired of traditional religion, and that not needing to support a journal as he often does the church, from motives of expediency, he simply refuses to do so. The explanation volunteered by some practical secular journalists is that the religious editor needs a lesson in his trade as badly as Mr. Sheldon thought the secular editor needed one in his.

The Interior (Presb., August 23) takes a more hopeful view of the situation. It points out the large aggregate circulation of religious journals in this country, and expresses a belief that tho in the struggle for survival many of the weakest will succumb, new methods and wider ideals will in the coming century give added force and effectiveness to the religious press. *The Interior* gives some interesting facts and figures. It says:

"In very recent statistics the number of distinctively religious journals in this country is put at 1,008, of which 684 are listed in *The Advertisers' Annual* for 1899, and their aggregate circulation at, in round numbers, 5,000,000. Many of these are of minor value and limited range, 113 of the 1,008 having considerably

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over 3,000,000 of the 5,000,000 subscribers. The weekly issues fall little short of 2,000,000 (the rest being bimonthly, monthly, quarterly, or annual), and as each copy, it is estimated, is read by five persons, the religious journal would seem to have a pretty large constituency and one not likely to melt away immediately.

"It is true that it is a hard thing now to make a religious journal pay expenses; but for that matter it never was easy. The genius and practical abilities of John Wesley himself could not long keep afloat *The Arminian Magazine* which he launched. From 1808, the date of the first American religious weekly, to the present year of 1900, it is safe to say not one religious weekly in ten has survived its first decade; and those which have finally attained a paying basis first sunk fortunes in the attempt. It is estimated by one of the best-posted rectors of New York City that Episcopalians in the metropolis saw $250,000 disappear before either of the papers started by them attained self-support. A paper of the same denomination, but published in the West, used up $30,000 before its receipts equalled its expenses, even tho the able editor of the same gave to the undertaking seven years of hard labor without pecuniary remuneration. So far was that from being exceptional that the sum mentioned was less than one half what it has cost to nurse through infancy some religious journals which are the source of large incomes to their owners or churches now.

"The fact that our Methodist brethren have recently suspended so many of their *Advocates* has been widely published, but the fact is not so well known that they have a single weekly whose plant and good-will were recently appraised by the courts at $400,000, and the value of their entire periodical plant was put at $2,500,000. The circulation of Methodist religious journals is about 250,000 copies a week, and that of all Presbyterian papers, thirty-five in number, at the same figure. In our own denomination the joint circulation of nineteen of these thirty-five is over 200,000, the sixteen others enumerated having but a limited and local constituency. Five of our leading papers have a joint circulation of from 100,000 to 120,000, more than the entire output of the Congregational weekly press, which is said to amount to about 75,000 copies, divided among eighteen journals, two of the eighteen having the bulk of the business.

"The future of our religious journals does not therefore depend so much upon their stars as upon themselves. Their future will be what they make it. The twentieth century will not be a century of atheism or mere secularism. People have still souls to save, and they are interested in those vital and fundamental themes which are ignored by the political and literary journals. Religion is still a mighty element in life, but it must be the real thing, not some imitation of it. The old polemic treatment is as much a thing of the past as the bleeding and cupping to which our fathers heroically submitted. The religious weekly of the future must be irenic or it is lost. It must breathe the spirit of the Master and be instinct with His life. It must not only admonish sinners but comfort saints. It must emphasize all the manly virtues and the womanly graces. It must make it sweet to live and easy to die. Into the household it will come enriched by all the resources of art, itself a product of the highest mechanical skill and displaying genius and faith in every line. Many papers now living will die, in some of them the process of dissolution can be no longer disguised; but those will survive which are the fittest to survive, and those are the journals consecrated not to a catechism or a past, but to a living Christ and a glorious future."

New Light on the Acts of the Apostles.—Several archeological discoveries made of late have shed valuable light on historical problems which have puzzled critical students of the Acts of the Apostles, their trend being to show the correctness in "local color" of the documentary portion of the Acts which contains them. Says *Biblia* (August):

"In chapter xvi., which contains an account of St. Paul's visit to Philippi, in Macedonia, a word is used (Meris) to designate the 'district' in Macedonia in which it was situated, which occurs nowhere else in that signification, so that its genuineness has been justly suspected. But among the Fayum documents a considerable number make use of just the same word to describe divisions in that region. So, also, the writer gives the courtesy title of 'prætor' with his attendant 'lictors,' to the magistrates of the city, on account of its being a Roman colony, as is usual in inscriptions from Roman colonies. From Philippi, Paul went to Thessalonica, not a Roman colony but a free city of Greece, with its own constitution; in this case the magistrates are called in the Acts 'politarchs,' a name which does not occur in any other place in Greek literature. Yet an inscription on an arch in that city, demolished some years ago, states that it was erected when certain named persons were 'politarchs of the city.' In like manner the whole narrative of the disturbances in the theater of Ephesus, and of the significance of the worship of Diana (Artemis) to the life and trade of the city, as told in the Acts, has been illustrated by the discoveries made on the site of that city by the authorities of the British Museum, and especially by the recently published inscriptions from that place. The language of some of these seems almost identical with that of the Acts."

The Christian in China and the Jew in Rumania: A Contrast.—In connection with the desperate situation of the little band of Christians in the midst of an alien people in China, attention has been called to another little band of people in Rumania, subjected to the deprivation of every civil right by their orthodox Christian neighbors, badgered and hounded by the police, and in constant danger of bloody persecution by the populace. We have already in the department of Foreign Topics referred to this anti-Jewish outbreak in Eastern Europe. The singular indifference of the Christian powers to this breaking of solemn treaty rights by the Rumanian Government, in contrast to their eagerness to rescue Christian missionaries from the heathen Chinese, is thus commented upon by *The American Hebrew* (August 10):

"International justice—we hear much of that now. A few hundred Christians locked up in Peking, menaced by Boxers, startle the world, and its armies invade foreign territory, regardless of life or expense. In Russia and Rumania alike, hundreds of thousands of men, women, and children endure continually what is a living death, but not a hand is raised in their behalf. No invasion of territory, none to risk his life, not any expense, were needed, but a firm demand of the powers that treaty rights be respected, will bring Rumania to her senses.

"And the time will come when governments will have to raise their voices in protest! Not the claims of humanity alone will compel them, but imperative economic reasons. If those who are forced from Rumania crowd into other lands, pour into the cities and disturb the labor market and conditions of trade, the necessities of industry, unable to bear so large an influx of foreigners, will compel the powers to rise and demand that Rumania recognize as her children those born and nurtured on her own soil, and accord to them the rights of which she has cunningly deprived them."

RELIGIOUS NOTES.

THE following alleged facts relating to the Beecher-Tilton case are given by *The Westminster Gazette*, on the authority of *The British Weekly*: "Tho Mr. Beecher's friends were most fully convinced that he was guiltless, they admitted that two or three letters professing to be written by him were regrettable, and that they had to take into account what they knew of him otherwise in estimating their significance. They now have been proved to be forgeries of the grossest kind. It would serve no purpose now to indicate the name of the forger, who is dead. Suffice it to say that the incident puts Beecher's character on a higher plane than ever." The same authority also alleges that "one of Beecher's most prominent ministerial opponents, on seeing the new evidence, expressed his deep regret at the position he had taken." None of these new witnesses is named.

A ROMAN Catholic reaction, of appreciable extent and force, appears to be taking place in the north of Europe, particularly in the little kingdoms of Denmark, Norway, and Sweden. Thirty years ago these were strongholds of Protestantism, with barely a handful of Roman Catholics, ruled from abroad by foreign bishops. To-day a different state of things prevails, according to Mr. C. W. Dowd, who has made an intimate study of religious conditions in the Scandinavian peninsula, and who writes in *The Catholic World* (August). "Not only have Catholic congregations increased considerably in numbers," he says, "but bishops reside in Copenhagen and Christiania, and men and women of national reputation, sometimes even more than that, have been admitted to the church and become its dauntless champions."

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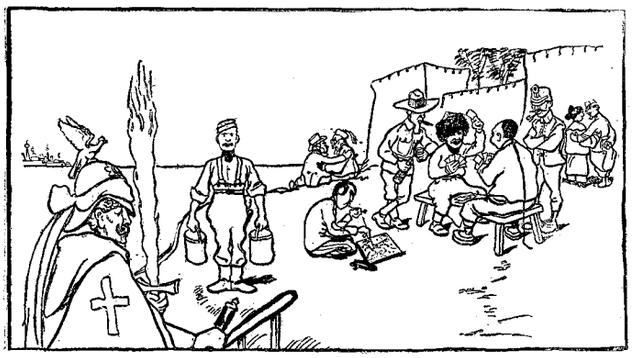
FOREIGN TOPICS.

AFTER PEKING, WHAT?

THE European papers are now discussing the problems that confront the powers since the occupation of Peking. None of them appears to favor the Russian proposal to withdraw from the Chinese capital. The London *Times* says:

"Before any offers from a Chinese Government can be entertained the powers must, in the first place, be satisfied that a Chinese Government exists, and, in the next, that it has duly authorized somebody to treat in its name, whom all the powers



WHEN THE GENERALISSIMO, MARSHAL VON WALDERSEE, ARRIVES IN CHINA.—*Figaro, Paris.*

can be reasonably expected to regard as an impartial representative of the interests of China, and of no other interests. None of these conditions are at present fulfilled. We do not know who or what is the actual Government of China. The reports which reach us on this subject continue to be untrustworthy and conflicting. . . . Until we have definite and authentic information as to the political situation in Peking, we can not be sure that the first duty of the powers may not be themselves to set up a Government with which they can subsequently treat."

Many papers point out that the Chinese have hardly had time to establish another capital from which to direct effectively the affairs of the big empire. *The Morning Advertiser* (London) says:

"The statements regarding the Empress-Dowager's probable destination reach us from several sources, and are in accord in declaring it to be Singan-fu. But there is no direct confirmation of this view, and it can only be afforded by eye-witnesses who may have been fortunate enough to meet her Majesty on the road. Singan-fu—or as it is sometimes spelt, Si-an-fu and even Hsi-an-fu—is the 'Peaceful City of the West,' and was in former years the capital of China. Peking took its place, but Singan-fu may once more be the abode of the Emperor and his family, and may again be elevated to the dignity of the Imperial City. The flight of the imperial family to the chief town of Shensi has something appropriate about it, for it may well be imagined that the Empress-Dowager, at her age, greatly needs to instal herself in some place of residence where peace can be said to reign."

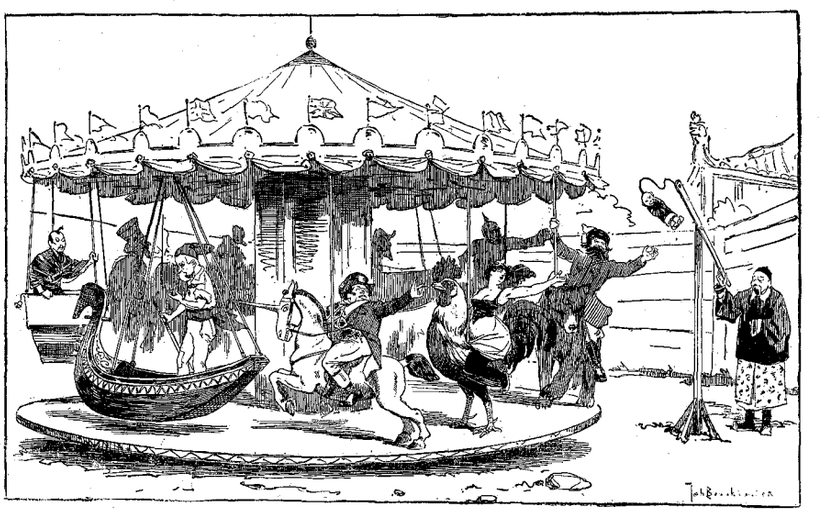
But the majority of the powers evidently will be satisfied with the establishment of a Government in Peking which will prevent such outrages in future. Great Britain as yet does not offer sufficient inducements to those interested in partitioning. Manchuria is already practically a Russian province, Shantung can not be touched without serious opposition from Germany. Central China, termed by the British "the Yang-tse Valley," has never been sufficiently in the grasp of Britain to render the exclusion of others feasible. Some of the most jingoistic papers in England admit this. We summarize the following from *The St. James's Gazette:*

This Shanghai business ought to be a warning revelation to all Englishmen who have been dwelling contentedly in the delusion that all the powers of the earth are harmoniously united to do in China just what we wish, and to let us do precisely what we like. A distinct majority of the inhabitants of this country is born with the creed described above, not only as about China, but in regard to every other part of international affairs. This explains the disgusted surprise of most of our contemporaries at the discovery that the whole world has seen in the proposal to land our troops at Shanghai the beginning of an artful attempt of ours to set up another occupation of Egypt in the Yang-tse Valley. We made the arrangement with the viceroy simply in order that we might be better able to back up his authority in case of need. All the rest of the world said we did it because we wanted to get our foot down, and that our scheme was quite obvious. Once landed at Shanghai, we would never go, and what is more, the fact that we held this place would be made an excuse for taking others. An incredulous world goes on insisting that we are very clever fellows and very unscrupulous, and that it dare not take its eye off us for a minute, more especially when we have just been professing with the forefinger of our right hand in the family Bible, and a large cambric pocket-handkerchief applied to our eyes, that we do not cherish the least hidden intention of taking anything from anybody.

The Russian papers agree that a policy of unforgiving aggression is not to the interest of Russia. The *St. Petersburger Zeitung* says:

"We quite agree to the terms of the Government communication which declares that our chief aim is to restore order, and to reopen friendly intercourse with China. In this way the Chinese people will know that we come as friends, not as enemies. The guilty must be punished, but we do not come to oppress."

The *Handelsblad* (Amsterdam) remarks that the Russians are indeed very clever. Their influence can only be increased by appearing as the protectors of China. The German papers pretty generally assert that Germany must not allow herself to be pushed aside if partitioning takes place. But with one accord they advocate the integrity of China as most beneficial to Germany. The experience of France in Tongking, the United States in the Philippines, and England in South Africa does not tempt the Germans to make extensive over-sea conquests, especially as their position in Europe is the most exposed. M. v. Brandt, ex-ambassador to China, advocates an understanding with the United States. His views are very typical. He ends an article in the *Deutsche Revue* (Stuttgart) as follows:



THE CHINESE MERRY-GO-ROUND.
—*Amsterdammer.*

"Our interests in the Far East do not lie in the acquisition of

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territory, which would only impose fresh duties and sacrifices upon us. We have every reason to keep out of the quarrels which the conflicting interests and aspirations of Russia, England, and Japan must generate; we should place ourselves by the side of the United States, which prudently seeks to safeguard its commercial interests only. Already the Russians are holding us responsible, and England does her best to arouse Russia and France against us. We do not want the leading part in the concert. We have not more reason to interfere in China than have the others, and we should not go further than our interests absolutely demand."

The French, too, desire the restoration of the *status quo ante* in China, and the *Journal des Débats* hopes that authorities may be found in China with whom the powers can come to terms.—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

WHY RUSSIA WANTS PEACE.

RUSSIA'S proposal to withdraw from Peking is received with as much astonishment in Europe as in America. The *Hamburger Nachrichten*, however, comes forward with an explanation: Russia loves peace, it says, but only until she is ready for war; when her present military preparations are complete, then look out. To quote:

"Russia's interests are at present centered in three points of the continent of Asia—namely, in Western Turkestan, in East Asia, and in Persia. The forward march of the Russians in Central Asia naturally included continuous fighting with the nomadic thieving tribes, and did not pause until the borders of Persia and Afghanistan were reached. Hand-in-hand with military operations went the building of a railroad, first in the neighborhood of Geok-Tepe, then as far as the Oxus, and later to Bokhara and Samarkand. At the present moment the Chinese border has been reached. Branch lines run from Chodjent northward to Tashkend, and from Merv southward to Kutchk on the Afghanistan border. This road has now passed out of the hands of the military authorities into those of civilians. It is no longer called the Transcaspian, but the Central Asian. Its success has far surpassed all expectations. General Kaufmann, the governor of Turkestan, has fostered the cotton cultivation of the district through which the line runs, and with the extension of the road the export of cotton kept pace. With the exception of Great Britain, Russia is the leading cotton-consuming country of the world, and at present has to import largely from Egypt and America. But there is every prospect that within ten years the production of Turkestan cotton will almost suffice to meet the demands of the home consumer.

"The cultivation of cotton in Central Asia is of old standing, and the natives are not slow to grasp the advantage of the better seeds which are supplied to them. The development of cotton culture would be much more rapid were not Russian capitalists unwilling to invest their money.

"In the East of Asia Russia displays even more energy. Among the powers of Europe Russia was the first to recognize the great importance of the extreme Orient. This was the cause of the building of the Siberian Railroad. To the point where the Spilka, the left branch of the Amur, is navigable, the railroad is in operation. From the Schilka to Chabarowka, on the lower Amur, a line of steamers runs, and from Chabarowka to Vladivostock there is again railroad communication. . . . . .

"The practical value of this railroad for military purposes can scarcely be overrated. If the Czar sets an army in march for Eastern Asia, no nation in the world can oppose him. Russia is scarcely yet in a position to do without a sea passage, but later she will be able to do so, and no power, not even Great Britain with her magnificent fleet, will find it possible to interfere.

"This railroad guarantees that, sooner or later, the whole of Asia north of the Yellow Sea will fall into Russia's hands. It is only a question of time. Peking will certainly be Russian. That city is no longer anything but the political capital of China; the real capital will be set up in the South. Russia bides her time, and while waiting fortifies Port Arthur, and in the neighborhood builds a city, Dalnij, which is destined to be the commercial capital of the Russian sphere of influence—what Hongkong is to the British."

It is thus pointed out that the Siberian Railroad, far from being a commercial enterprise, was undertaken simply for the purpose of strengthening Russia's military influence in Asia. To quote again:

In Central Asia Russia has the opportunity to build up an immense cotton culture. The success of the Transsiberian Railroad is assured if energy can be imparted into the people of Northern China. In Persia the proposed line will have both a military and a commercial object. It would have been much more advanced now had Russia had means at her disposal. . . . All this work can progress only if peace is maintained. At this moment Russia is not in a condition to pass through a great crisis. If there is to be war, all the efforts put forth by Russia and all the money spent by her can be reckoned as wasted."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE UNITED STATES AND CHINA.

A GLANCE at the American press is not unlikely to convey the impression that the whole world is turning with special interest to the United States, and that our Government is, as it were, leading the procession in China. Such an impression would be erroneous. In other countries the newspapers imbued with modern ideas of patriotism also put their own nation as the most important in the concert. But there is really as yet no leader, and since the suspicion that the United States Government will follow unreservedly in Great Britain's wake has somewhat subsided, no special attention is paid to us. The chief cause of this is that we are supposed to be very busy with preparations for our election, and that "khaki" does not appear to be the best issue on which it can be won, in the opinion of the foreign observer. *The Investor's Review* (London) says:

JOHN BULL'S DREAM: The turnspits relieving each other in preparing the roast beef for him. —*Kladderadatsch.*

"The United States appear to hold back because a formidable section of their population is opposed to that kind of imperialistic expansion which has involved the country in the interminable conflict in the Philippines, and the Administration dare

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not, with the Presidential election coming on, go into fresh adventures of this world-conquering kind. Germany, we suppose, has no particular desire to act as long as her interests lying to the south are not interfered with."

The Times (London) nevertheless believes that the United States will not make a separate peace with China, and most papers share this view. *The Outlook* (London) says:

"Outside of Europe we see the United States with a Monroe doctrine which, like other doctrines, seems not to be operative as regards China. Little wonder that Li Hung Chang would like to open up separate negotiations with the powers. The prospect of the moment is a prolonged foreign occupation of China, enduring so long as the apparently interminable deadlock of European interests prevails, and to be ended only as a long, tortuous, and stormy diplomacy may resolve."

The St. James's Gazette thinks that the United States will be forced to join in partitioning, even if she does not do so in that absent-minded sort of way which, according to English papers, distinguishes British conquests. The paper says:

"Several weeks ago we observed that no matter how sincerely the American Government might endeavor to keep free of the entanglement in China, the republic would be inevitably sucked into the vortex in the Far East, and that Americans would learn from their own experience that compelling necessity and not eager aggrandizement is the motive force of 'expansion.' This lesson, it appears, is being quickly impressed upon Washington. From the outbreak of the present crisis the American Government have tried hard to minimize their own share in the proceedings of the powers. They took no part in the bombardment of the Taku forts. They have manfully kept up the pretence that there was no cause for war with China, but only for a relief expedition and for meting out punishment to the rebels against the Chinese Government. But now all this is changed. Mr. Conger has himself told his Government that the Boxers were a pretence, and that the Government of the Empress was the real culprit. Since Mr. Conger's despatches have reached Washington, the conciliatory tone of Mr. McKinley's diplomacy has entirely disappeared."

It is regarded as somewhat disappointiug, tho, that the support given to Great Britain is not more unconditional, and *The Scotsman* (Edinburgh) thinks it "very curious" that the American representative at Shanghai has joined in the protest against the exclusive occupation of that place by British troops. But, on the whole, European opinion may be summarized in the words of the *Temps* (Paris), which says:

"Mr. Bryan, the Democratic candidate, has organized his forces with the intention of harassing his Republican rival to the best of his ability. His best weapon is the sentiment of reaction against the adventurous policy of foreign wars.

"The affairs of China place Mr. McKinley in an embarrassing position, because, altho furiously imperialistic, he may not, according to the Constitution, declare war without consent of Congress. This is a wise provision against usurpation, and the Americans hold to it as to the stars on their flag. Mr. McKinley has already had the misfortune to violate the Constitution on this point, for the war in the Philippines has not been sanctioned by Congress.

"And now the cry is: Is there going to be a repetition in China? Are European political manners to be introduced here? Is the President no longer the servant of the state? Does he aspire to become its master?

"Such are the questions which the Americans are now asking. Never was a people more insistent upon directing its own foreign policy. Anti-imperialism would never have become such a powerful political factor were it not in strict accord with the instincts of American Democracy.

"'You will not send a single soldier or a ship against any foreign people without our authorization. It is because we intend to remain sovereign in our own country, and we fear that if our men are sent abroad without authorization from us our own free institutions will be endangered. In one word, we fear imperialism, which is only another name for despotism.'

"Mr. McKinley has tacked. He always does tack. He has not summoned Congress. He has sent to China troops from the Philippines. He posted a vessel at Taku to be present at the bombardment—not to take part. And every day he offers a new explanation of his attitude.

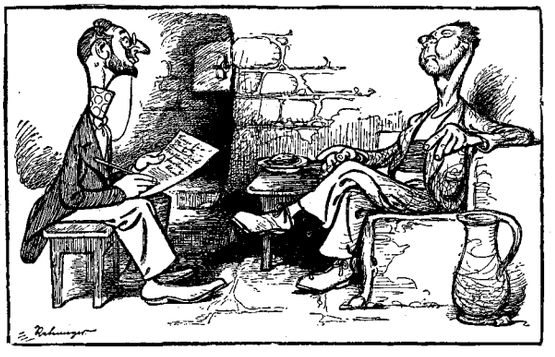
"Finally, he has explained overmuch. The other nations have not been able to comprehend."

In a letter to a friend, Admiral Seymour makes a flattering reference to the Americans under his command. He says:

"Perhaps few have tried to conduct an expedition of eight nationalities. It requires both tact and temper. Yet the foreigners were very nice to me, and, as it went on more and more, said, '*A vos ordres*,' and whatever you say we will do. It was very interesting to watch the national characteristics. The Germans we admired the most, but for dash and go no one passed, or perhaps equaled, the Americans. The French had no particular *rapprochement* to any other nationality. The Germans and Russians were inclined to hold together. The Americans were with us always. The Japanese inclined to us, but the Russians were friendly to them. The Italians and Austrians were good fellows, but few in numbers."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

THE NEW KING OF ITALY AND HIS DIFFICULTIES.

KING VICTOR EMMANUEL has declared that he will conduct the affairs of his country as his father did—in a liberal, constitutional manner. The task is not an easy one, and the *Tribuna* (Rome) hopes that the Italian politicians, who are in a large measure responsible for the troubles of their country,



REPORTER (to Anarchist murderer): "My dear Mr. Stiletto, may I ask for some anecdotes of your early life, indicating,—um—er, moral weakness?" —*Kladderadatsch.*

will help the present King more loyally than they helped his father. The paper says:

"The Monza murderer could kill a liberal king, but not the liberal monarchy. The King's proclamation proves this conclusively. The bullet which pierced the heart of Umberto has not destroyed the traditions of his house. The young monarch of to-day well understands the situation; he knows the difficulties which beset him. He knows the enemies of the monarchy, and their plans, and he hopes to end the troubles which seemed to assist these enemies. What he will do is not a question that should now be asked. The question is rather: Will he find men unselfish enough to support him, men strong enough to put aside party interests and private interests, and willing to work for the good of the state, for all Italy?"

The *Deutsche Tages-Zeitung* (Berlin) points out that the chief difficulty is the adjustment of the taxes, which lay most heavily upon the poverty-stricken peasantry. In a lengthy article the above paper sketches the agrarian condition of Italy to the following effect:

Of the 30,000,000 hectares over 5,600,000 are lying idle. The land produces less than half as much per acre as in Germany, altho the natural conditions are much better. But poverty and sloth prevent rational treatment of the exhausted soil. The land tax is astoundingly high, amounting to 23 per cent., 27 per cent.,

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40 per cent., and even 50 per cent. of the net receipts according to the province. Add to this the fact that the land is cut up into very small parcels—peasants who own only half an acre are numerous, and thousands of people call only five or six olive-trees their own—and it will easily be understood that the peasantry are continually the prey of the usurers. Indeed, the banditti are mostly peasants who were driven from home by usury. Among those who, despite all hardships, remain on the soil, poverty, ignorance, and disease prevail. They can not procure sufficient food, and they can not put their houses in repair.

A great deal of advice is given the King as regards his foreign policy. The Triple Alliance, which by its members is regarded as the cause of the fact that Germany, Austria, and Italy are no longer the convenient battle-grounds of other nations, is popular neither in France nor England nor Russia. *The Saturday Review* (London) thinks the King will do well if he attempts expansion on a large scale, but reduces the cost of the army. It says:

"Instead of the insignificant driblets of men now being sent to China, let Victor Emmanuel boldly send 20,000 picked men and five more ships of his fine navy. The Left would be troublesome: there would be an outcry about the cost and the empty exchequer: let him meet that, in the teeth of Germany and Austria, by temporarily reducing his cumbrous army, and so saving the expenditure. If Italy takes a leading share in stamping out Chinese savagery, she will earn the gratitude of the world and the fear of all the enemies of civilization. She will, in fact, at a bound, become a nation considered of all other nations."

The *Vossische Zeitung* (Berlin) points out that reduction of the army and defection from the triple alliance would leave Italy at the mercy of France, and force her to support England in return for the doubtful assistance Great Britain could give in a war with France.

Another important difficulty the King has to meet is the quarrel with the church. The great majority of the Italian people are firm in the resolve that Rome must remain the capital of the Italian kingdom, and the people of the Romagna, who were, according to many historians, under papal rule the worst governed of all Italians, show no wish for a return of the old order of things. But the church is still rich enough to wield powerful political influence, and it still considers secular sovereignty necessary for the proper exercise of the Pope's spiritual authority. The *Osservatore Romano* says:

"The history of half a century can not be effaced by a funeral, and all the protestations aganst injustice, the claims which have been put forward, and the censures which have been uttered can not be wiped out by a moment of grief before the tomb of King Humbert. Yet no one has eulogized the departed King more than we have, and no praise has been more truly comforting to the survivors and those who pray for him."

According to the *Liberté* (Paris), the Pope strictly upheld the "boycott" which he has instituted among the most Catholic sovereigns, such as the King of Portugal, and tho the Archbishop of Milan went to the widowed Queen at her repeated requests, he had no message from the Pope. This attitude has called forth some criticism. *The St. James's Gazette* (London) says:

"To the lengths to which the Vatican is prepared to go there is apparently no limit. The *Osservatore Romano*, which is an official organ of the cardinals, publishes a declaration stating that while the Vatican sincerely execrated the murder of King Humbert, and had allowed the clergy to be present at his funeral, still 'this attitude must not be interpreted.' That is to say, that the rabid bigotry of the cardinals compels them to make some kind of perfunctory allusion to Bresci's crime, but that we are to read between the lines that they feel no sympathy with the victim. Queen Margherita's beautiful prayer is not composed in conformity with the rules of the Catholic liturgy, and therefore is not to be recited in churches. The rules of the Catholic liturgy did not limit the composing of the Lord's Prayer; but then neither does the Vatican bind itself by the rules of Christian forgiveness. Rather it prefers to speak of 'the nonsense published in the press about conciliation.' There is something about conciliation, it might be pointed out, in the Sermon on the Mount."

The *Journal des Débats* (Paris) says:

"There are several rumors to explain this attitude. One is, that it had been hoped that the new King, moved by the Monza catastrophe, would himself seek to approach the Vatican. If so, a great disappointment was the result, for in the proclamation to his people Victor Emmanuel III. spoke of Rome as a point which must not be touched. Another version, more credible, is that there are two factions within the church, one favoring conciliation, the other standing by the restoration of temporal power. The latter in the end had the greatest influence. Evidently the irreconcilable quarrel between the Vatican and the Quirinal continues to form a part of Italian politics."—*Translations made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

French Canadian Sentiment toward the United States.—The *Presse* (Montreal) gives an interesting account of "the feelings" of French Canadians with regard to British rule, Canadian independence, or annexation to the United States. We condense from it as follows:

Public opinion is undoubtedly opposed to independence. Its possibility is doubted, as the minority would undoubtedly suffer if British protection were withdrawn. No doubt independence would have doubled our population; a glance at our neighbors across the border shows that. But would not separation from England have placed us at the mercy of the United States, of which we would have been but a dependency, incapable of defending ourselves, a protectorate subject to the good pleasure of neighbors which were still less well disposed toward us formerly than they are to-day. The province of Quebec could have been tyrannized by the others; hence it never for a moment looked toward emancipation.

Annexation would, no doubt, have been advantageous from a business point of view. American capital would have been at our disposal, for it is less exclusive, less jingo, than English capital, which aids first of all its own countrymen. We would have found the means to compete in industries and trade. But the *status quo* is the general desire of our people, who reject political absorption by Great Britain as well as adhesion to a United States which has violently entered upon the path of imperialism, an imperialism as aggressive as that of the Cabinet of St. James's. Yet, if we were forced to choose between the two, American imperialism would receive preference over British imperialism.—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

Shall Norway Have a King of Her Own?—Björnson, the Norwegian writer and leader of the Radicals in his country, recently delivered a political speech in Drontheim in which he insisted upon the abolition of the ministry of foreign affairs, for, he said, such a ministry for a country in which are two peoples is ridiculous. He described the present state of affairs as resembling a pair of trousers of which Norway and Sweden possessed only one-half each. Then he paid his respects to the King, saying: "The union-king we have is also another man too many. No one can be at the same time Norwegian and Swede. So far Sweden has had all the advantages of the union. The longer this state of affairs is allowed to continue, the more will she gain the upper hand."

The *Münchener Allgemeine Zeitung* (Munich) comments as follows:

"For the first time Björnson was bold enough to come out flatfooted for the abolition of the monarchy. In addition to her own consular representatives, Norway is now bent upon demanding separate diplomatic representation and—a king of her own. 'When,' said Björnson, 'we are independent, we will begin to work for Scandinavian unity; not unity in a political sense, but from the standpoint of Scandinavian neutrality.' This speech, delivered just before the election in which for the first time there will be universal suffrage, will be certain to have great weight."—*Translation made for* THE LITERARY DIGEST.

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FOREIGN POSSIBILITIES OF AMERICAN COMMERCE.

Consul-General Guenther writes from Frankfort, June 12, 1900:

The manufacturers of first-class tools and of iron and steel goods in Westphalia and the Rhenish province have formed a trust. Its avowed purpose is to fight foreign competition in tools, etc., and the menacing commercial invasion from the United States. At the same time, it is intended to combat the domestic production and sale of shoddy goods at ruinous prices. Every competent manufacturer who obligates himself to sell only first-class goods and mark them with the firm's name and price can become a member of the union. The sale of poor and defective articles will result in expulsion. A committee will supervise the quality of the goods. The sale will be regulated by the union as much as possible, especially as to prices, terms, etc. For effective opposition against foreign competition, united action will be inaugurated.

Consul Dudley, of Vancouver, on June 27, 1900, writes:

About three months ago arrangements were made which prevented vessels from the United States bound for ports in Alaska calling here en route. It was understood that this action was taken as a retaliatory measure, because British vessels were not given certain privileges which they desired in the ports of the United States. The people here now seem to be convinced that the driving away of American vessels has had a prejudicial effect upon the business of this city. It is stated, upon what seems good authority, that the United States vessels which formerly called here on their way to and from Alaska will be asked to resume the old custom. Formerly, there was a very considerable fleet of American vessels making regular calls here, thereby furnishing Vancouver merchants frequent opportunities for making shipments to Alaska and the Yukon Territory.

Consul Hughes sends from Coburg, June 22, 1900, translation of an article from the Berlin *Handels Museum*, as follows:

"Smyrna is gaining every year in importance as a place of commerce; thanks to the development of agriculture and the opening of the two new railroads, the exports and imports are steadily increasing. The numerous lines of steamers calling at Smyrna provide means for quick transportation at low rates. There exist at present direct steamship connections with the United States, Canada, Australia, and India. The year 1898-99, having been very dry, has not been favorable to the export, and yet there were shipped 78,000,000 francs ($15,054,000) worth of goods; 48 per cent. of which went to England. The principal articles for export are barley, opium, figs, beans, sesamum, sultana raisins, etc."

Consul Harris writes from Mannheim June 22, 1900:

The Sunlight Soap Company, an English concern, has completed a large plant at Rheinau, a suburb of this city, for the manufacture of laundry and other soaps for domestic use. The building is about 600 feet long and is well equipped with machinery for soap-making and with printing-offices and other facilities for preparing advertising matter. The company is one of the largest advertisers in this locality and has for some time practically controlled the soap trade in the surrounding towns and villages. No American soap is sold here, so far as I know. As Mannheim and its suburban villages have a population of nearly or quite 225,000, largely engaged in manufacturing and in railroading, the district would seem to offer a good field for our own trade in this line. Mannheim is a center of distribution for petroleum and many other products. The fact also that this locality exports very largely to the United States (nearly $4,500,000 per year) removes much of the hostility that might otherwise exist against our goods.

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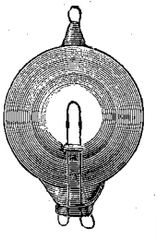

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PERSONALS.

Buying a Fan.—Miss Katharine Lee Bates, who spent some months in Spain last year, declares that the dark-eyed damsels of the fan and lace mantilla are quite as charming as tradition has pictured them. Ignorant they commonly are, their education being of the most meager, but they are not dull. They are quick-witted, high-spirited, and affectionate, and are possessed of a grace of speech and manner which rarely deserts them. Nor do they reserve their pretty ways only for the ball-room or the parlor; even ordinary shopping is lifted into a scene of elegant comedy by the manner in which it is transacted. This is how a Spanish señorita bargains for her fan. There is nothing sordid about it. Her haggling is a social condescension that at once puts the black-eyed young salesman at her mercy.

"But the fan seems to me the least bit dear, señor!"

He shrugs his shoulders and flings out his arm in protest.

"Ah, señorita! You do not see how beautiful the work is. I am giving it away at six pesetas."

She lifts her eyebrows half incredulously, all bewitchingly.

"At five pesetas, señor."

He runs his hand through his black hair in chivalrous distress.

"But the peerless work, señorita! And this other, too. I sacrifice it at four pesetas."

She touches both fans lightly.

"You will let us have the two at seven pesetas, señor?"

Her eyes dance over his confusion. He catches the gleam, laughs back, throws up his hands.

"Bueno, señorita! At what you please!"

And the señorita trips away contented with a sharp bargain, altho—for Spanish gallantry, even when genuine, goes farther on the lips than otherwise—the price was probably not much more remote from what pleased the smooth-tongued clerk than from what she pleased.—*Youth's Companion.*

New Fall Suits and Cloaks.

THE well-dressed woman of to-day, be she the wife of millionaire or mechanic, is the tailor-made woman. The day of high prices is over. Modern business methods, our large establishment, correct buying of materials, and the fact that we deal direct with the consumer, employing no agents and administering no branch stores, has made it possible for us to place in your hands the very newest creations in specially-tailored garments at very moderate prices. If the idea of a specially-tailor-made costume of the latest Paris cut, at the most reasonable of prices, is attractive to you, send for our illustrated Fall Catalogue. You will get it FREE by return mail, together with a choice selection of samples of the newest French cloths. *Our prices this season are lower than ever before.* We prepay all express charges.

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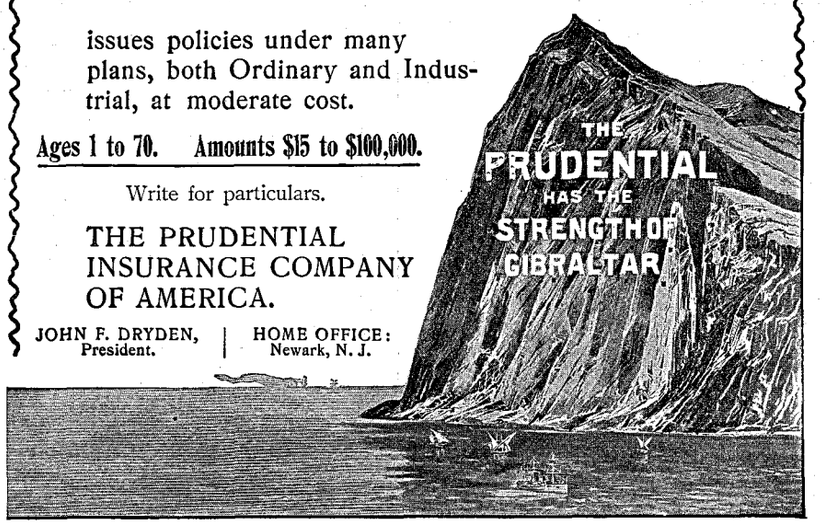

Current Events.

Foreign.

CHINA.

September 3.—Efforts are made to urge Russia to modify her proposition for the withdrawal of troops, and thereby avoid discord among the powers.

Most of the German papers state that it is very doubtful if Germany can adopt Russia's suggestions.

Members of the Tsung-li-Yamen seek to open negotiations with the allies in Peking through Sir Robert Hart.

September 4.—Li Hung Chang, Yung Lu, Hsu Tung, and Prince Ching are appointed peace commissioners by imperial edict to negotiate with the powers.

Protest against the evacuation of Peking are cabled to the respective powers by the foreigners there.

The War Department receives word from General Chaffee describing the military situation as satisfactory.

September 5.—Advices received in Washington indicate that the powers will finally agree to adopt Russia's proposals.

Twelve hundred more British Indian troops are landed at Shanghai.

September 6.—Hostilities between the Boxers and German troops take place in Shan-Tung province; disorderly demonstrations are reported from Canton.

The President and the Cabinet confer on the Chinese situation, and modifications of Russia's proposals are discussed.

France is said to be for and Germany against the Russian proposition.

September 7.—News received from Vienna indicates that Russia has agreed to a compromise

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by leaving a portion of the troops in Peking, and sending the main body to Tien-Tsin.

September 8.—Precautions against an expected riot were taken by the commanders of foreign troops at Hongkong on the occasion of the Dragon festival.

Orders have been sent from Washington to General Chaffee to prepare his force for withdrawal from Peking, if such steps should become necessary.

September 9.—Three hundred men of the Sixth United States Cavalry defeated six hundred Boxers at Hunting Park, eleven miles from Peking.

At the Japanese legation, information is received to the effect that a detachment of Japanese cavalry escorted Prince Ching to Peking from Tsing Ho.

SOUTH AFRICA.

September 3.—Lord Roberts issues a proclamation annexing the South African Republic to the Queen's dominions.

September 5.—General Botha checks the columns of General Buller in the Lydenburg Mountains; the Boers raise the siege of Ladybrand.

September 7.—Lord Roberts reports skirmishes at several points; General Baden-Powell arrives at Cape Town amidst enthusiastic demonstrations.

September 9.—General Buller continues his advance against the main remnant of the Boer army, and was engaged with the Boers east of Lydenburg; the latter talk of trekking into German territory.

OTHER FOREIGN NEWS.

September 3.—Precautions are taken by foreign governments and by the British authorities to stop the spread of the bubonic plague in Glasgow.

September 4.—A serious outbreak of yellow fever is reported from Havana.

The ratifications of the agreements and treaties resulting from the peace conference are formally placed in the Foreign Office archives at The Hague.

September 6.—The *Stellar Polare*, with the Duke of Abruzzi's Polar expedition on board, arrives in Norway; the expedition reached a point in latitude 86.35 north, thus penetrating farther north than Dr. Nansen.

September 7.—More encouraging reports are received regarding the Indian famine, tho nearly four million people are still receiving relief.

September 9.—The Archbishop of Aix is dead.

Despatches announce the seizure of Tubaco, a village near Costayena, by Colombian rebels.

Domestic.

POLITICS:

September 3.—Labor Day is celebrated with parades, picnics, and addresses; Governor Roosevelt and W. J. Bryan speak from the same platform at Chicago; ex-Senator Hill makes an address at Troy, N. Y.

The political campaign in Kentucky is opened with speeches by the Republican and Democratic candidates for governor.

September 4.—Arkansas elects Jefferson Davis (Dem.) governor by an overwhelming majority.

Mr. Bryan speaks in Ohio, West Virginia, and Maryland. At Cumberland, Md., Senator Wellinton comes out for Bryan.

September 5.—Utah Republicans in state convention nominate Heber M. Wells for governor.

New York Republicans in state convention nominate B. B. Odell, Jr., for governor.

Secretary Gage addresses an open letter to Carl Schurz on the silver question.

The "National Party," in session at New York, nominates Senator Caffery for President, and Archibald M. Howe for Vice-President.

The Vermont elections show a Republican majority of over 30,000.

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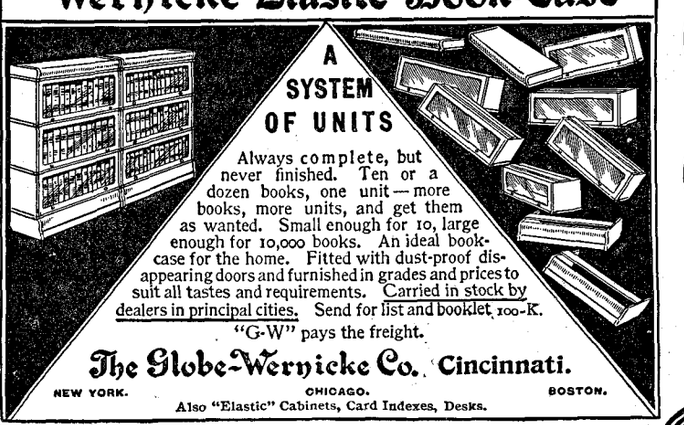

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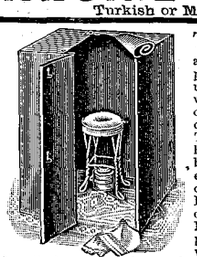

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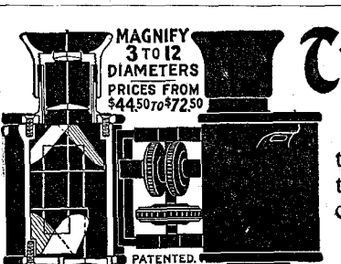

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September 6.—Governor Roosevelt addresses a vast audience at Detroit, Mich.

Bryan speaks at Wheeling, Va.

Montana Republicans in state convention nominate David E. Folsom for governor.

Richard Olney, Secretary of State under the Cleveland administration, declares for Bryan.

September 7.—Governor Roosevelt makes eight speeches in Michigan.

Utah Democrats in state convention nominate James H. Moyle for governor.

September 8.—Senators Depew, Foraker, and Hanna open the Republican campaign in Ohio.

September 9.—President McKinley's letter of acceptance to the Republican national convention accepting his nomination for the Presidency is made public.

OTHER DOMESTIC NEWS.

September 3.—Arthur Sewall, Democratic candidate for Vice-President in 1896, dies from apoplexy at his home in Maine.

September 4.—*The National Association of Letter-Carriers* meets at Detroit.

September 6.—Many census returns are made public: Richmond, Va., has 85,050; Charleston, S. C., 55,807; Hartford, Conn., 79,850; Trenton, N. J., 73,307; Washington, Tenn., 80,865.

September 8.—Ex-President Harrison accepts, and ex-President Cleveland declines appointment as members of the International Arbitration Board under The Hague treaty.

September 9.—The West Indian storm which visited Texas coast causes great loss of life; all communications with Galveston has been cut off, and Sabine Pass and Port Arthur are reported destroyed.

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CHESS.

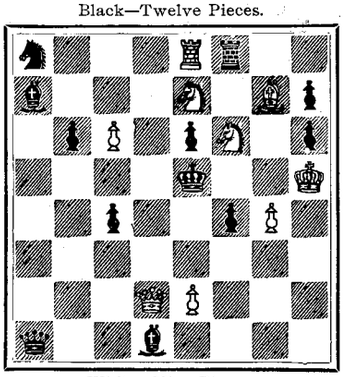
[All communications for this Department should be addressed: "Chess Editor, LITERARY DIGEST."

Problem 501.

By J. FRIDLIZIUS.

First Prize, Swedish National Problem Tourney.

Black—Twelve Pieces.



White—Nine Pieces.

White mates in three moves.

Solution of Problems.

No. 496.

This problem, altho it took first prize, hasn't any solution. The author's key, Q—R 2, is answered by Q—K 7, pinning the Kt and stopping the mate. The Chess-editor of THE LITERARY DIGEST admits with the Problem-Editor of *The B. C. M.*, that "we published the problem assuming its accuracy, and only looked at it superficially to see what was the author's intention." This problem is something of a curiosity in that it passed the Judges and escaped the inspection of Chess-editors.

No. 497.

1. Q—Kt 3 / Kt—K 6	2. B—R 7 ch / Kt—B 4 (must)	3. B x Kt, mate
1. ..... / R x Q	2. R—B 7 / K x R	3. R—B 4, mate
	2. ..... / Any other	3. R—K 7, mate

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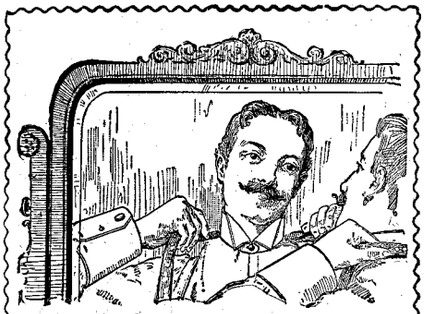

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1. ..... / R—B 5	2. Q x P ch / K x Q (must)	3. B—R 7, mate	
1. ..... / R x B	2. R x Kt P / Any	3. Q—Q 5 or R—B 4, mate	

Solved by M. W. H., University of Virginia; the Rev. I. W. Bieber, Bethlehem, Pa.; C. R. Oldham, Moundsville, W. Va.; Murray Marble, Worcester, Mass.; W. W., Cambridge, Mass.; H. W. Barry, Boston; F. S. Ferguson, Birmingham, Ala.; Dr. R. J. Moore, Riverton, Ala.; N. Weil, Calhoun, Ky.; H. A. Seade, Mahomet, Ill.; B. Hesse, Saginaw, Mich.; H. Meyer, Milwaukee; H. Ketcham, Vergennes, Vt.

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In addition to those reported, H. W. B., 495; W. W., 493; N. W., and G. Patterson, Winnipeg, Can., 494 and 495; H. K., 493 and 395: J. H. Louden, Bloomington, Ill., and J. L. Kennard, Lincoln, Neb., 494.

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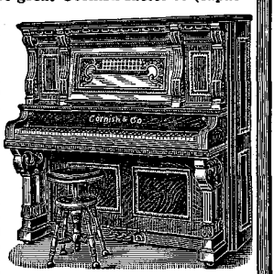

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TOURNAMENT RECORD.

Date, Place, and Prize.	*Won.*	*Lost.*
1862—London, sixth	8	5
1867—Paris, third	18	6
1867—Dundee, second	7	2
1870—Baden, second	10½	5½
1872—London, first	7	9
1873—Vienna, first	22½	4½
1882—Vienna, first*	24	10
1883—London, second	19	7
1894—New York, first	8½	1½
1895—Hastings, fifth	13	8
1895—St. Petersburg, second	9½	8½
1896—Nuremberg, sixth	11	7
1898—Vienna, fourth	24½	12½
1898—Cologne, fifth	9½	5½
1893—London, tenth†	11½	13½
Total	203½	98½

* Tied with S. Winawer.
† Tied with W. Cohn. Not a prize-winner.

MATCH RECORD.

Date. Opponents.	*W.*	*L.*	*Date. Opponents.*	*W.*	*L.*
1862—Dubois	5	3	1883—Mackenzie	3	1
1863—Deacon	5	1	1883—Golmayo	8	1
1863—Mongredien	7	0	1883—Martinez	9	0
1863—Blackburne	7	1	1885—Sellman	3	0
1866—Anderssen	8	6	1886—Zuckertort	10	5
1866—Bird	7	5	1889—Tschigorin	10	6
1867—Fraser	3	1	1891—Gunsberg	6	4
1870—Blackburne	5	0	1892—Tschigorin	10	8
1872—Zuckertort	7	1	1894—Lasker	5	10
1876—Blackburne	7	0	1897—Lasker	2	10
1882—Martinez	7	0			
1882—Martinez	3	1	Total	140	64
1882—Sellman	3	0			

Chess and the Puritans.

In *The British Chess-Magazine*, August, there is an article which might be called "The Curiosities of Chess," from which we take the following interesting bit, showing the Puritans' attitude toward Chess:

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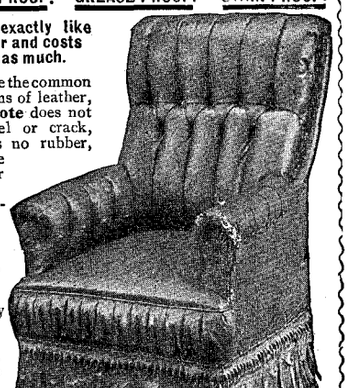

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'the Babylonian game of Cross and Pile, and the anti-Christian game of Chess with Kings and Queens and Bishops in it.' And among a list of 'Memorable Occurrences in 1644,' Douce discovered the following scandalous conduct of the Parliamentary-general, Waller: 'May 31, Waller, attempting to pass Isis at Newbridge, and being there repulsed, retired to Abingdon, where, to revenge himself, demolished the Abingdon cross, defaced the church, burnt all the tables and Chessboards in Abingdon, and plundered most of the people of their goods.'"

Game from the Munich Tournament.

ONE OF THE BEST GAMES OF THE TOURNEY.

Queen's Gambit.

	SHOWALTER. *White.*	BURN. *Black.*		SHOWALTER. *White.*	BURN. *Black.*
1	P—Q 4	P—Q 4	26	B—K B 4	K R—Q B sq
2	P—Q B 4	P x P	27	B—K 5	Kt—Q 4
3	P—K 3	P—K 3	28	R—Q 3	B—R 3
4	B x P	Kt—K B 3	29	B—R 5	Q—Kt sq
5	Kt-Q B 3	P—B 4	30	R-K Kt 3	R—R 2
6	Kt—B 3	Kt—B 2	31	B-Kt 6 (e)	B—Kt 4
7	Castles	B—K 2	32	R—Kt 5	Kt—B 3
8	Kt—K 5	P x P	33	R—B 3	Q—B sq
9	Kt x Kt	Kt P x Kt	34	R(B 3)-K	B—K 7 (f)
10	P x P	Castles		Kt 3	
11	B—K 3	B—Kt 2 (a)	35	B x R P	Kt x B
12	Q—K 2	Q—R 4	36	R x P	R x R
13	P—Q R 3	B—Q 3	37	R x R	Q x R
14	K R-Q sq	Q—B 2	38	B x Q ch	K x B
15	P—R 3	P—Q R 4	39	Q—K 7 ch	K—R sq
16	B-K Kt 5	Kt—Q 2	40	Q x P	B—R 3
17	Q R-B sq	P—R 5 (b)	41	P—Q 5 (g)	Kt—B sq
18	Q—Kt 4	K—R sq	42	Q x K B P	K—Kt sq (h)
19	Q—R 4	K R—K sq	43	P—Q 6	R—K sq
20	Kt—K 4	P—B 3	44	P—Q 7	R—K 8 ch
21	Kt x B	Q x Kt (c)	45	K—R 2	Kt x P (i)
22	B—B 4	Q—K 2	46	Q x Kt	B—Kt 4
23	B—Q 2	Q—B 2	47	P—R 4	R—K 7
24	B—Q 3	P—K B 4 (d)	48	P—R 5	R x B P
25	B—K 2	Kt—B 3	49	P—R 6	Resigns.

Notes by Emil Kemeny.

(a) Preferable was Q—R 4, followed eventually by P—B 4 or P—K 4.

(b) With the intention to weaken the adverse Pawns on the Queen's wing. The play is not well timed, for it gives White a chance to start a promising King's-side attack. Better was B—B 5, exchanging Bishops.

(c) He could not play B x B, on account of Kt—B 7 ch and Kt x P.

(d) Hardly any better was P—Kt 3, or P—R 3, Q—Kt sq. The White Bishops are well placed, and they will get actively into play.

(e) Stronger, perhaps was R—Kt 6, followed eventually by R—R 6 and B—Kt 6. The text play, however, is quite effective.

(f) To guard against B x R P, followed by R—R 5, and, eventually, R—Kt 6 and R—R 6, leading to mate. The move selected does not stop the B x R P continuation, as the progress of the game shows. Nor did Black have a satisfactory defense. P—R 3 might have been answered with B x B P, followed by R x Kt P and B x Kt or Q x R P ch, according to Black's Q x R or R x R reply.

(g) Black's moves from the thirty-fifth turn were all forced. Rook and two pieces are of more value than the Queen, but the text move either wins a piece or the advanced Q P will decide in White's favor. White evidently had this continuation in view when he played B x R P. The combination was both brilliant and deep, and surely it did not lack soundness.

(h) P x P would be answered with Q—B 6 ch and Q x B.

(i) R—Q 8 would not stop the Pawn. White continues P—Q 8 (Q); Q—Kt 5 ch and Q x R, winning easily.

The Cradle of Caissa.

BY S. J. STEVENS.

In Eden, the garden of peace and repose,
Ere Satan had caused our first parents to grieve,
As Adam lay musing at sweet twilight's close,
In visions entranced, he dreamt of his Eve.

Was it Fate boded ill, wasn't joy or remorse?
Some scribes of the ancients had thought that he wept,
Tears welled in his eyes, 'twas in triumph of course;
Tho Scripture has only recorded, "he slept."

A theme he had pondered, the problem he solved,
(Such metempsychosis no mortal had seen),
Sacrificial his plan, 'twas quickly resolved,
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A Piece he gave up in exchange for a Queen,
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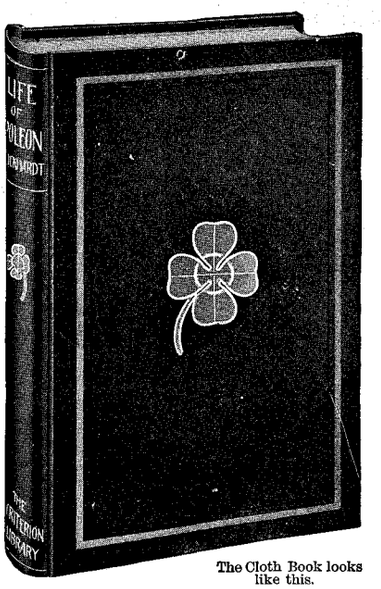

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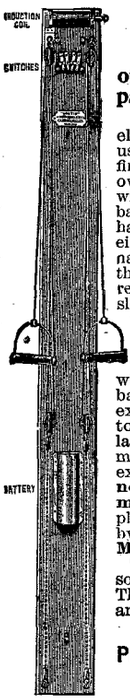

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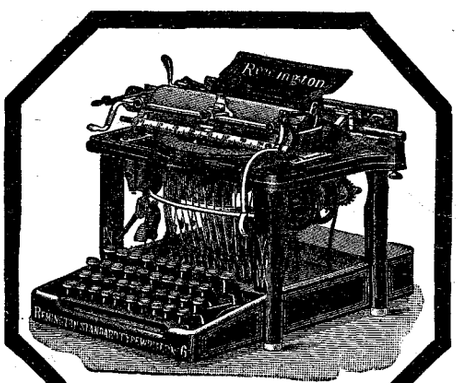

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